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# The Chat

## BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

WOOD DUCK—*Aix sponsa* L

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Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

# The Chat

BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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# Bird Census Taker Pursues Quest From Dawn to Night in Freezing Weather

*Joe Jones, Chapel Hill, N. C.*

As I walked down Strowd's hill before dawn the day after Christmas, with coat collar turned up and hat pulled down over my ears because the temperature was 12 degrees, I began to believe the saying that you don't have to be crazy to like birds but that it helps a lot.

This was the day chosen by the Chapel Hill Bird Club for its annual all-day Christmas bird census. The other members were to meet at 7 A.M. at the Bell Tower to have their various areas assigned to them by Bill Hamnett. I had agreed beforehand to cover Strowd's lowgrounds and its environs and had left home at 6:30 in order to be in the field by the time the birds were astir. Although I was cold, it gave me a warm feeling to know that my fellow bird enthusiasts would soon be fanning out through the countryside in a supreme effort to better our one-day Christmas count record of 75 species.

The town dump was my first stop. Winter birds always congregate there, and I had soon ticked off more than 20 species, including Fox Sparrow, Towhee, Robin, and Red-shouldered Hawk. Before sunrise I had plunged into the watery wilderness below Paul Green's hill. But I didn't get far because the ice wouldn't hold me. I worked my way back up Bolin Creek to the bridge at Nathan's kennels, crossed over, and moved down the north bank to Harward's pasture, where I had usually been able to find a Wilson's Snipe. It wasn't there this time because all the low places in the pasture were frozen solid.

I pushed on down along the edge of the swamp, adding the Pine Warbler and Brown-headed Nuthatch and several other species to my list. Then I headed for the Durham highway in search of a Shrike. At least one is almost always perched on the wires somewhere between Brady's and the Durham County line. I was lucky; I saw my Shrike as soon as I hit the pike.

I was amazed at how much more bitter the cold and wind seemed on the highway than in the fields and woods. I struck off through the old meadow back of the riding stables and two fields beyond turned east through the woods toward Durham. My objective was Dr. Foy Roberson's in whose broad pastures I hoped to find Pipits or Horned Larks. On my way there I picked up some Pine Siskins and a Phoebe.

As soon as I emerged from the woods into the Roberson fields I scared up flocks of Meadowlarks, Red-wings, Starlings, and Killdeers. And then I was thrilled by the sibilant notes of Horned Larks. A little flock of eight arose and wheeled away. But there were no Pipits, and I couldn't find the Sparrow Hawk which is usually present at the Roberson farm.

Since it was almost noon, and I was tired and hungry, I began to walk back along the highway toward Chapel Hill. I stopped at Brady's for a barbecue sandwich and to do some phoning. Maybe I could catch some of the others while they were home

for lunch and get them to drive me to Hogan's lake or some other good birding spot. Bill Hamnett was the only one I could find. He said nobody showed up at the Bell Tower except him and Dave Frey. They had been out all morning, but they weren't going to be out all day. As far as he knew, nobody else had been out.

Although this was disappointing, Bill gave me some good news too. At the University Lake, where shooting is prohibited, he and Dave had seen a Bonaparte's Gull, as well as Coots, Grebes, a Great Blue Heron, and six species of wild ducks. But our combined lists amounted to less than 60 species. This would be a poor showing for Chapel Hill to make in the ornithological journals that publish Christmas censuses from throughout the nation. It depended on me to better it, and wherever I went I would have to get there under my own power. Bill couldn't leave the house because his children were sick from too much Christmas, Dave Frey had no phone, and nobody else was at home.

I caught a ride to town on Harward's milk truck, rested a half-hour, and set out for the Mason farm. Bill had said they hadn't seen a Marsh Hawk or any Quail, and I felt I could find them and other new species down there. I knew of no better place to look for more birds, except Hogan's lake, and that was too far for me to walk.

I went down to Kenan stadium and followed the brook through the woods down past the Meeting of the Waters alongside the hideous scar the pipe layers have made there on their way to the new sewage disposal plant at the Mason farm. I continued through the woods to Laurel Hill, whence I followed Morgan Creek down to the farm. There I crossed the new wooden bridge into a field where I used to see Quail. I quartered the field in vain and then re-crossed the creek on a fallen log. Just as I set foot on the ground, a Cooper's Hawk flew out of a tree and a single Quail exploded from the brambles. They made me forget I was tired and cold. Everything seemed fine as I trudged on toward the great meadows which lie beyond the creek at the lower end of the Mason farm.

I was soon to have a setback. When I reached the low concrete bridge on which I had to cross I found it under two feet of water. I was forced to remove my shoes and socks and wade the icy cascading stream. (The day's highest temperature was 24 degrees.) I had my reward, for it wasn't long till I spotted my Marsh Hawk, that beautiful harrier, gliding and drifting just above the grass tips on its long loose-jointed pinions, a marvelous sight to anybody, whether or not he is looking for another bird to add to a list.

A little while later, far down at the other end of the farm in a little swale at the edge of the woods, a Wilson's Snipe flew up from under my feet. Next I saw a flock of Waxwings and my first Doves of the day. We had passed the 60 mark, anyway.

But there was one more bird I certainly ought to get before I started home. On last year's census trip, late in the afternoon, as it now was, I had heard the Barred Owls shouting to each other far back in the dense woods beyond the Mason farm. Now I couldn't hear any. For almost an hour I lingered there, imitating their deep hooting call, hoping for an answer from the darkening woods. But none came, and for the first time in several years our Christmas census failed to include the Barred Owl.

When I reached home I called Bill Hamnett and found we had a total of 63 species. Later we heard from Phillips Russell that he had been out and had seen one species, the Black Vulture, which none of the rest of us had listed. Our final total of 64 was five less than the same number of observers had seen on the 1947 census. It is a mark we should have little trouble improving next Christmas.—*Chapel Hill Weekly*.

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BUILDING BIRD HOMES: Now is the time to prepare homes for birds for the coming season. To meet requests for simple instructions for building bird houses, we have copies of a leaflet reprinted from the March 1948 issue of *The Chat*. Drop a card to the Editor if you need a copy, or a few copies, of the leaflet, "Building Proper Homes for Your Bird Neighbors."

# Christmas Bird Count, 1948

Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro, N. C.

Carolina Bird Club members have sent in Christmas counts from seventeen localities in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, including: Asheville, N. C., Chapel Hill, N. C., Charlotte, N. C., Columbia, S. C., Durham, N. C., Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee-North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C., Henderson, N. C., High Point, N. C., Lenoir, N. C., Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, N. C., Mt. Olive, N. C., Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, N. C., Raleigh, N. C., Spartanburg, S. C., Windom, N. C. and Winston-Salem, N. C. The seventeen localities, with 171 observers, reported 135 species and 1 extra sub-species, and counted a total of approximately 92,787 birds. In the Christmas count a year ago, sixteen localities in this area, with 190 observers, reported 176 species and sub-species, which is 41 species more than recorded in the 1948 count, but two of the entire nations high scoring localities, Charleston, S. C. (which had 136 species in 1947), and Wilmington, N. C. (which reported 115 species in 1947), are both missing from this year's counts.

The high species count for our area for 1948 is from Greensboro, where a total of 79 species was recorded. The Mattamuskeet Wildlife Refuge leads in the number of birds, a total of about 35,207 being reported; and their species count, 72, is second largest among those reporting. Individual honors for this year must be given to Bob Wolff, now residing at Winston-Salem. Besides directing the extensive counts both at the Mattamuskeet and the Pea Island Refuges, Wolff assisted with the count at Greensboro. Ten of the seventeen localities reporting Christmas counts to *The Chat* list 50 species or more.

Among the records which might be of special interest are: 19 Snow Buntings reported at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge; 25 Tree Sparrows reported at Greensboro; one Orchard Oriole reported by Bob Holmes at Mt. Olive; a Bewick's Wren reported at Great Smoky Mountains National Park and another at Raleigh; and a White-crowned Sparrow seen at Asheville. Asheville also reported 22 Snow Buntings.

The rather mild weather that prevailed through December in most of this area is reflected in the report of at least a few Robins in all counts, with

the exception of Spartanburg and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge; Coots were reported in some numbers from five localities; a few Brown Thrashers were reported from each of ten localities; Chipping Sparrows were reported in small numbers from Asheville (26), Columbia (17), Henderson (1), Mt. Olive (15), and Spartanburg (6); Catbirds were reported at Columbia (1), Mattamuskeet Wildlife Refuge (6), and Raleigh (1); and Rusty Blackbirds were checked at Chapel Hill (3), Greensboro (52), and Mt. Olive (1).

Although a great variety of water and shore birds were listed at Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, the numbers of individuals reported there were generally smaller than in the 1947 counts, a marked exception being Snow Geese with an estimated number of 11,500 compared with last year's 7,000. At the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, 2,000 Whistling Swans are listed, compared with last year's 5,000, but this year's Mattamuskeet counts of Canada Geese and all the commoner ducks are definitely greater than last year.

Among our more or less erratic winter visitors, Purple Finches are listed from all count areas except Columbia, Mattamuskeet, Pea Island, Raleigh, and Windom; Pine Siskins are reported only from Chapel Hill (13), Gt. Smoky Mountains National Park (115), Greensboro (22), and Mt. Olive (4); and Red-breasted Nuthatches are reported from only two localities, Gt. Smoky Mountains National Park (12), and Spartanburg (2).

ASHEVILLE, N. C. (From Beaver Lake south including Biltmore Forest and and Vanderbilt Estate, and from Malvern Hills, West Asheville, east to Oteen; open farmland 15 pct., town suburbs 35 pct., pine woodland 10 pct., deciduous and mixed woodland 25 pct., lake and stream banks 14 pct., marsh 1 pct.)—Jan. 1; 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Clear, cold, windy; temp. 23 to 39 degrees F.; wind 14 to 17 m.p.h. Twenty-eight observers in 18 parties; 46 hours; total miles, 48 (40 on foot, 8 by car). Mallard, 31; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Ruffed Grouse, 3; Bobwhite, 19; Mourning Dove, 14; Barred Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 10; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 48; Phoebe, 1; Blue Jay, 50; Am. Crow, 46; Chickadee, 88; Tufted Titmouse, 88; White-breasted Nuthatch, 76; Brown Creeper, 6; Winter Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 34; Mockingbird, 29; Robin, 268 (100 est.); Hermit Thrush, 2; Eastern Bluebird, 25; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 21; Starling, 237 (220 est., 17); Blue-headed Vireo, 4 (E. B.; M. D.); Myrtle Warbler, 5; English Sparrow, 342; Cardinal, 76; Purple Finch, 79; Am. Goldfinch, 31; Eastern Towhee, 130; Junco, 249; Chipping Sparrow, 26; Field Sparrow, 17; White-crowned Sparrow, 1 (B. M.); White-throated Sparrow, 281 (96 est., 85); Fox Sparrow, 8; Song Sparrow, 48; Snow Bunting, 22. Total 48 species; about 2,342 individuals. Observers: *Esther Bloxton, Mrs. Boyce Brannon, Margaret Decker, Mrs. Francis Field, Mrs. Dodette Grinnell, Ben Jones, Leland Jones, Mrs. Reed Kitchen, Paul T. Knollman, Billy Lasher, Miss Lawler, Arthur Lawrence, J. N. McCabe, Nicholas McCabe, Jr., Sheila McCabe, Clayton McCracken,*

*Mrs. Marshall Meredith, Bentley Mulford, Mrs. Madeline Murry, R. H. Rembert, Mrs. Charles Richmond, Dr. G. S. Tennent, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thorne, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Ward, T. F. Young.*

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (Same area as in last 19 years; oak-hickory woods 20 pct., pine woods 10 pct., lowland thickets and open farmland 50 pct., marsh and lake shores 20 pct.)—Dec. 26; 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Clear; temp. 12 to 24 to 18 degrees; wind W to NW, 1-7 m.p.h.; ground covered with thin ice; all water bodies had a fringe of thin ice. Four observers in 3 parties. Total hours, 31 (29 on foot, 2 in car); total miles 34 (19 on foot, 15 by car). Pied-billed Grebe, 5; Great Blue Heron, 1; Black Duck, 21; Blue-winged Teal, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 12; Scaup, 66; Bufflehead, 8; Ruddy Duck, 11; Turkey Vulture, 10; Black Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 7; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Marsh Hawk, 2; Bobwhite, 44; Coot, 12; Killdeer, 30; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Bonaparte's Gull, 1; Mourning Dove, 9; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 24; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 10; Red-headed Woodpecker, 5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 6; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 21; Phoebe, 2; Horned Lark, 8; Blue Jay, 21; Am. Crow, 44; Carolina Chickadee, 48; Tufted Titmouse, 37; White-breasted Nuthatch, 22; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 21; Brown Creeper, 5; Carolina Wren, 47; Mockingbird, 18; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 15; Hermit Thrush, 8; Eastern Bluebird, 34; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 22; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 8; Cedar Waxwing, 11; Shrike, 1; Starling, 38; Myrtle Warbler, 42; Pine Warbler, 8; English Sparrow, 35; Eastern Meadowlark, 79; Red-wing, 65; Rusty Blackbird, 3; Cardinal, 77; Purple Finch, 2; Pine Siskin, 13; Am. Goldfinch, 33; Eastern Towhee, 27; Savannah Sparrow, 14; Carolina Junco, 151; Field Sparrow, 49; White-throated Sparrow, 300; Fox Sparrow, 10; Swamp Sparrow, 9; Song Sparrow, 117. Total, 64 species; 1766 individuals.—*David Frey, W. L. Hamnett* (compiler), *Joe Jones, Phillips Russell.*

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (Area essentially the same as last six years but without the Clarkson city garden. Johnston and Stillwell ponds along the Albemarle road and the upper drainage basin of McAlpine Creek included. Pine, gum, poplar, and cedar woodland 50 pct., open farmland 35 pct., hedgerows 10 pct., ponds and marshes 5 pct.) —Jan. 1; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Clear; temp. 28 to 49 degrees, wind 1-7 m.p.h. Eight observers in three parties. Total hours, 28½ (15½ in car, 13 on foot); total miles 65 (40 by car, 25 on foot). Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Mallard, 1; Gadwall, 1; Blue-winged Teal, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 2; Canvasback, 2; Lesser Scaup Duck, 2; Turkey Vulture, 2; Black Vulture, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Mourning Dove, 5; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 20; Am. Crow, 17; Carolina Chickadee, 3; Tufted Titmouse, 4; Carolina Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 2; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 65; Hermit Thrush, 3; Eastern Bluebird, 52; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Cedar Waxwing, 80; Loggerhead Shrike, 2; Starling, 10; Myrtle Warbler, 16; English Sparrow, 6; Eastern Meadowlark, 30; Cardinal, 16; Purple Finch, 75; Am. Goldfinch, 6; Eastern Towhee (Red-eyed), 11; Savannah Sparrow, 15; Slate-colored Junco, 32; Field Sparrow, 20; White-throated Sparrow, 33; Song Sparrow, 17. Total 45 species; 574 individuals.—*B. R. Chamberlain, Margaret Chamberlain, Norman Chamberlain, Will Hon, Jim Layton, Brem Mayer, Earnest Mitchell, Jr., Charles Sellers.* (Mecklenburg Audubon Club).

COLUMBIA, S. C. (Five miles north of Columbia, Ridgewood Club area and Smith Branch; 7 miles west of Columbia, Hendrix's Pond, Fisher's Pond, Horseshoe Lake, West Columbia to a point 3 miles east of center of town. Urban territory 6 pct.,

deciduous woods 12 pct., pine woods 22 pct., lake shores 21 pct., broom fields 22 pct., cat-tail marsh 3 pct., reed marsh 9 pct., cultivated fields 5 pct.) Dec. 28—7:00 a.m. to dusk; clear to light rain in late afternoon; calm; tem. 32 to 55 degrees. Seven observers. Total miles 48 (36 by auto, 12 on foot.) Pied-billed Grebe, 3; Ring-necked Duck, 14; Turkey Vulture, 4; Black Vulture, 37; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Coot, 24; Bonaparte's Gull, 10; Mourning Dove, 33; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 4; Blue Jay, 28; Am. Crow, 13; Carolina Chickadee, 5; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 13; Mockingbird, 12; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 11; Robin 38; Hermit Thrush, 6; Eastern Bluebird, 40; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 19; Cedar Waxwing, 48; Loggerhead Shrike, 3; Starling, 182; Myrtle Warbler, 3; Pine Warbler, 12; English Sparrow, 121; Eastern Meadowlark, 70; Purple Grackle, 24; Cowbird, 225; Cardinal, 18; Am. Goldfinch, 1; Eastern Towhee (Red-eyed), 96; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 35; Chipping Sparrow, 17; Field Sparrow, 93; White-throated Sparrow, 82; Fox Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 20. Total, 50 species; 1401 individuals.—*Gilbert Bristow, Billy Thomas, Spencer Meeks, Mrs. Clyde Sisson, Mrs. P. B. Hendrix, Mrs. W. H. Faver, Mrs. Gerard McNamee.*

DURHAM, N. C. (Duke University Campus as center; Northwest 3.5 miles to Crystal Lake, west 5 miles to Hollow Rock, Northeast 7 miles to Oxford Highway, including Hillandale Golf Course, Duke Campus and surrounding forest, Bird Sanctuary, and lowland along Ellerbe Creek; about 50 pct. open land including some pasture and cultivated fields; 50 pct. wooded, of which 50 pct. was brush, 25 pct. pine, and 25 pct. hardwood.)—Dec. 28, 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Clear in morning, light clouds in afternoon. No wind. Temp. 20 to 50 degrees F. Six observers in two parties of three each. Total hours 14; total miles 65 by car, 16 on foot. Hooded Merganser, 3; Am. Merganser, 1; Turkey Vulture, 16; Black Vulture, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Killdeer, 33; Mourning Dove, 103; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 9; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 4; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Blue Jay, 36; Am. Crow, 18; Carolina Chickadee, 44; Tufted Titmouse, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 2; Winter Wren, 4; Carolina Wren, 17; Mockingbird, 10; Robin, 130; Hermit Thrush, 4; Eastern Bluebird, 33; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 14; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 5; Cedar Waxwing, 100; Shrike, 1; Starling, 62; Myrtle Warbler, 12; Pine Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 16; Eastern Meadowlark, 103; Cardinal, 42; Purple Finch, 19; Am. Goldfinch, 33; Eastern Towhee, 8; Savannah Sparrow, 26; Slate-colored Junco, 300 (est.); Field Sparrow, 20; White-throated Sparrow, 108; Fox Sparrow, 9; Swamp Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 80. Total, 45 species, about 1468 individuals.—*Dr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Bailey, Dr. M. W. Johnson, Dr. Paul J. Kramer, Richard Kramer, Barty Martin.*

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, TENN. (Essentially same area as in past 11 years; circle with 7½ mile radius centering on Bull Head of Mt. LeConte, including a section of the Tennessee-North Carolina divide from Mt. Collins to Newfound Gap; towns of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge; open farmland 30 pct., deciduous forest 20 pct., spruce forest 20 pct., abandoned fields 15 pct., towns and suburbs 15 pct.)—Jan. 2; 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Overcast throughout the day; temp. 26 to 48 degrees; wind SW and W, very light at low altitudes and to 15 m.p.h. at high altitudes; ground frozen in A.M., thawing in P.M. Altitude range 1200 to 5600 ft. Twenty-two observers in 10 parties. Total party-hours, 75; total miles, 200 (150 by car, 50 on foot). Great Blue Heron, 1; Hooded Merganser, 2; Turkey Vulture, 6; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Ruffed

Grouse, 8; Killdeer, 30; Mourning Dove, 41; Screech Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 3; Pileated Woodpecker, 10; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 11; Eastern Phoebe, 2; Horned Lark, 25; Blue Jay, 20; Raven, 2; Am. Crow, 1000 (est.); Chickadee (both Black-capped and Carolina observed), 143; Tufted Titmouse, 33; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 12; Brown Creeper, 7; Winter Wren, 4; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 18; Mockingbird, 4; Robin, 65; Hermit Thrush, 13; Eastern Bluebird, 20; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 89; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Loggerhead Shrike, 2; Starling, 20; Myrtle Warbler, 11; English Sparrow, 222 (est.); Eastern Meadowlark, 9; Red-wing, 15; Grackle, 3; Cardinal, 58; Purple Finch, 14; Pine Siskin, 115; Am. Goldfinch, 163; Eastern Towhee, 30; Savannah Sparrow, 5; Slate-colored Junco (both typical Slate-colored and Carolina represented), 415; Field Sparrow, 68; White-throated Sparrow, 109; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow 85. Total, 55 species (1 additional subspecies); approximately 2938 individuals.—*William Baker*, *Mrs. Harvey Broome*, *Carlos Campbell*, *Mary R. Chiles*, *Brockway Crouch*, *Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dunbar*, *Robert Goddard*, *Joseph C. Howell*, *William M. Johnson*, *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leonhard*, *Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Monroe*, *Mrs. E. E. Overton*, *Arthur Stupka*, *James T. Tanner*, *Samuel R. Tipton*, *Dorothy E. Williams*, *Mary Williams*, *D. W. Yambert*, *William Yambert* (members and guests, Tennessee Ornithological Society and National Park Service).

GREENSBORO, N. C. (Center of the area has been moved to a point about ½ mile southwest of the transmitting towers of radio station WBIG, thus including Justamere Farm and eliminating Ritter's Lake; otherwise the region remains the same as in the past several years, including Pinecroft, Starmount Farm, Hamilton Lakes, Greensboro Country Park, Greensboro-High Point Airport, Lakes Brandt, Richland, Scales, Benjamin, Philadelphia, Buffalo, and Sharpe; also White Oak Pond and Reedy Fork Creek east of Lake Brandt for about six miles; the latter is a swamp area which has not been covered before on our counts; deciduous and pine woodlands 25 pct., open fields and golf courses 15 pct., thickets, brushy fields, and marsh 20 pct., fresh water lakes and ponds 25 pct., wooded swamp 5 pct., city yards, parkways, and campuses 10 pct.)—Dec. 26; 4:15 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Clear; temp. 14 to 31 degrees; wind N, 10-15 m.p.h. in morning, less than 5 m.p.h. in afternoon; this was the first hard freeze of the year, so nearly all ponds and lakes were unfrozen; sleet and freezing rain the day before resulted in limbs of most trees being covered with ice, but much of this was gone by afternoon. Nineteen observers in 9 parties. Total hours, 56; total miles, 143 (35 by foot, 108 by car). Horned Grebe, 3; Pied-billed Grebe, 18; Great Blue Heron, 1; Mallard, 96 (75 est., 21); Black Duck, 60; Baldpate, 1; Wood Duck, 1; Redhead, 4; Ring-necked Duck, 32; Lesser Scaup Duck, 6; Bufflehead, 2; Ruddy Duck, 15; Am. Merganser, 2; Red-breasted Merganser, 14; Turkey Vulture, 28; Black Vulture, 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bobwhite, 41; Coot, 125; Killdeer, 23; Wilson's Snipe, 4; Ring-billed Gull, 7; Mourning Dove, 68; Barn Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 5; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 40; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 15; Red-headed Woodpecker, 14; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 12; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 40; Phoebe, 13; Horned Lark, 50 (est.); Blue Jay, 66; Am. Crow, 172; Carolina Chickadee, 130; Tufted Titmouse, 82; White-breasted Nuthatch, 13; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 11; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 51; Mockingbird, 66; Brown Thrasher, 6; Robin, 91; Hermit Thrush, 20; Eastern Bluebird, 226; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 41; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 42; Am. Pipit, 62; Cedar Waxwing, 41; Loggerhead Shrike, 12; Starling, 2065 (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 49; Pine Warbler, 54; English Sparrow, 137; Eastern Meadowlark, 129; Red-wing, 25; Rusty Blackbird, 52 (H. L. M., G. A. S.); Purple Grackle, 1; Cardinal, 164;

Purple Finch, 14; Pine Siskin, 22; Am. Goldfinch, 349 (280 est., 69); Eastern Towhee (Red-eyed), 78; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Slate-colored Junco, 1387; Tree Sparrow, 25 (Mr. and Mrs. G. W. P.); Field Sparrow, 233; White-throated Sparrow, 531; Fox Sparrow, 7; Swamp Sparrow, 22; Song Sparrow, 247. Total, 79 species; about 7492 individuals. *John Carr, Miss Inez Coldwell, Mrs. F. H. Craft, Larry Crawford, C. R. Lamb, Miss Anne Lock, H. L. Medford, Mrs. H. L. Medford, Hugh Medford, Jr., Oscar H. Paris, Jr.* (compiler), *George W. Perrett, Mrs. George W. Perrett, Bill Scarborough, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith L. Settan, George A. Smith, T. E. Street, Dr. Wesley Taylor, R. L. Wolff* (Members and guests of Piedmont Bird Club).

HENDERSON, N. C. (Same area as in previous years; 50 pct. fields and thickets, 10 pct. mixed woodland, 35 pct. low ground, streams, and small ponds, 5 pct. suburbs.) Dec. 28, 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Clear with only occasional clouds and slight wind, temp. 24-42 degrees F., light snow on ground in morning and ponds ice-covered all day. Six observers in three parties. Total hours 9½ (on foot), total miles 7 (on foot). Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 6; Mourning Dove, 2; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 7; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Phoebe, 3; Blue Jay, 12; Am. Crow, 16; Carolina Chickadee, 16; Tufted Titmouse, 9; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 6; Carolina Wren, 24; Mockingbird, 8; Robin, 22; Hermit Thrush, 2; Eastern Bluebird, 32; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 7; Shrike, 1; Starling, 59; Myrtle Warbler, 26; Pine Warbler, 6; English Sparrow, 27; Eastern Meadowlark, 2; Red-wing, 21; Cardinal, 33; Purple Finch, 2; Am. Goldfinch, 93; Eastern Towhee, 3; Junco, 298; Chipping Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 81; White-throated Sparrow, 158; Fox Sparrow, 9; Song Sparrow, 131. Total, 41 species; 1144 individuals. *Misses Mariel Gary, Garnette Myers, Claudia Hunter, and Mesdames G. E. Rose, W. B. Daniel, A. W. Bachman.*

HIGH POINT, N. C. (Uwharrie Scout Camp, High Point Municipal Lake and watershed, portion of city of High Point, and ponds and farms southeast of City; natural and planted pine thickets, 20 pct., mixed dry woods, 35 pct., lake and shoreline 20 pct., wooded swamp 5 pct., fields 10 pct., city yards 10 pct.)—Dec. 27; 6:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Clear; temp. 19 to 40 to 34 degrees; calm; ground bare, small amount of sleet on trees in A.M., ponds frozen, except wider portions of City Lake. Sixteen observers in two parties. Total hours 18; total miles 40 (15 on foot, 25 by car). Great Blue Heron, 3; Black Duck, 31; Turkey Vulture, 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bobwhite, 23; Killdeer, 7; Mourning Dove, 7; Great Horned Owl, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Phoebe, 1; Blue Jay, 15; Am. Crow, 25; Carolina Chickadee, 36; Tufted Titmouse, 17; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 10; Mockingbird, 13; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 5; Hermit Thrush, 3; Eastern Bluebird, 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 14; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 199; Loggerhead Shrike, 4; Starling, 22; Myrtle Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 18; Cowbird, 1; Cardinal, 27; Purple Finch, 4; Am. Goldfinch, 85; Eastern Towhee, 9; Savannah Sparrow, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 135; Field Sparrow, 6; White-throated Sparrow, 26; Song Sparrow, 9. Total, 46 species; 805 individuals. (Seen in area Dec. 24, Horned Grebe, 1; Am. Merganser, 1; Eastern Meadowlark, 14.) *Dr. N. R. Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hauschild, Byron Haworth, Mrs. C. C. Haworth, C. C. Haworth, Jr., Eldora Haworth, Joe Hester, Jean Karnaghan, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Mattocks, Mrs. C. B. Mattocks, Johnny Miller, Larry Miller, Mickey Miller, Genevieve Moore, Edith Sherrod* (Catesby Bird Club).

LENOIR, N. C. (Center of town to radius of 3 miles; town suburbs 75 pct., pastures and open farmlands 15 pct., woodland 10 pct.)—Jan. 2; 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Fair before noon, cloudy afternoon; temp. 35 to 45 degrees F.; wind ENE, 8-12 m.p.h.; ground bare. Seventeen observers in 6 parties. Total hours, 9 on foot; total miles, 10 on foot. Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 25; Mourning Dove., 67; Screech Owl, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 4; Am. Crow, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 20; Tufted Titmouse, 17; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 14; Mockingbird, 3; Brown Thrasher, 1 (seen daily since Nov. 25—M. T. M.); Robin, 7; Hermit Thrush, 2; Eastern Blue-bird, 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 2; Cedar Waxwing, 100; Starling, 12; Myrtle Warbler, 50; Pine Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 150; Purple Grackle, 1; Cardinal, 25; Purple Finch, 20; Eastern Towhee, 7; Slate-colored Junco (Carolina), 44; Field Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 70; Song Sparrow, 22. Total, 34 species; 684 individuals.—*Miss I. Bernhardt, Mrs. I. B. Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. James Griggs, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Greer, Mrs. Bess Harper, Miss Margaret Harper, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. May, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Parks, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Warren, and Mrs. R. C. Powell* (Lenoir Audubon Club).

MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, New Holland, Hyde County, N. C. (Same area as 1940 and subsequent counts; Mattamuskeet Refuge and adjacent woods and fields; including public road across the lake; marsh 30 pct., open water, 40 pct., fields and thickets 20 pct., pine and cypress woods 10 pct.)—Jan. 2, 1949; 7:45 A.M. to 4:15 P.M., clear to partly overcast, ground bare; wind W; temp. 30 to 47 degrees F. Five observers mostly together. Total hours afield, 8½; total miles traveled, 29 by car; 4 by foot. Common Loon, 2; Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Great Blue Heron, 6; American Egret, 5; Little Blue Heron, 1; Whistling Swan, 2,000; Canada Goose, 20,000; Blue Goose, 4; Mallard, 200; Black Duck, 400; Gadwall, 2; Baldpate, 250; Pintail, 5,000; Green-winged Teal, 500; Shoveller, 11; Ring-necked Duck, 1; Canvas-back, 1; Lesser Scaup Duck, 2; Ruddy Duck, 1; Turkey Vulture, 60; Black Vulture, 23; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Bald Eagle, 17; Marsh Hawk, 8; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bob-white 8; Killdeer, 5; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Greater Yellow-legs, 6; Lesser Yellow-legs, 1; Herring Gull, 48; Ring-billed Gull, 5; Mourning Dove, 42; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 6; Tree Swallow, 21; Am. Crow, 225; Fish Crow, 7; Carolina Chickadee, 5; Carolina Wren, 5; Short-billed Marsh Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 13; Catbird, 6; Brown Thrasher, 5; Robin, 125; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 15; Am. Pipit, 15; Cedar Waxwing, 17; Starling, 95; Myrtle Warbler, 1200; English Sparrow, 7; Eastern Meadowlark, 90; Red-wing, 4,500; Purple Grackle, 35; Cowbird, 2; Cardinal, 15; Am. Goldfinch, 19; Eastern Towhee, 6; Savannah Sparrow, 7; Field Sparrow, 75; White-throated Sparrow, 20; Fox Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 26. Total, 72 species; about 35,207 individuals (larger flocks estimated). (Seen in same area: Dec. 30, 1 Black-bellied Plover; Jan. 1, American Merganser, 2; Hooded Merganser, 1; Canvas-back, 1.) *R. L. Wolff, Jimmy Cavenaugh, Billy Gibson, and Bobby Anderson*, of Goldsboro, N. C.; *W. G. Cahoon*, Mattamuskeet Refuge Manager, New Holland, N. C.

MT. OLIVE, N. C. (Wooten, Williams, and Brandon farms; open fields 50 pct., pine woods 10 pct., mixed pine and deciduous woods 35 pct., small ponds 5 pct.)—Dec. 30; 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Clear; temp. 32 to 48 degrees; wind N, 8-12 m.p.h. in A.M. and 19-24 m.p.h. in P.M. Three observers in two parties. Total hours, 21; total miles 33 (15 on foot, 18 by car). Horned Grebe, 1 (very recently

killed); Pied-billed Grebe, 5; Canvasback, 1; Turkey Vulture, 6; Black Vulture, 17; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 8; Bobwhite, 7; Killdeer, 29; Mourning Dove, 40; Great Horned Owl, 1; Barred Owl, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 27; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 13; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Phoebe, 8; Blue Jay, 12; Am. Crow, 22; Carolina Chickadee, 47; Tufted Titmouse, 19; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 15; Mockingbird, 30; Brown Thrasher, 16; Robin, 75; Hermit Thrush, 43; Eastern Bluebird, 26; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 7; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 34; Am. Pipit, 150 (est.); Cedar Waxwing, 16; Loggerhead Shrike, 14; Starling, 800 (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 400 (est.); English Sparrow, 350 (est.); Eastern Medowlark, 48; Red-wing, 2752 (2700 est., 52); Orchard Oriole, 1 (one was collected near the same place in winter of 1946 and was identified at the Smithsonian; this bird has been present all winter; oriole bill, two wing bars, greenish-yellow tail and breast—B. H. III); Rusty Blackbird, 1; Purple Grackle, 2; Cowbird, 10; Cardinal, 78; Purple Finch, 2; Pine Siskin, 4; Am Gol.dfinch, 120 (est.); Eastern Towhee, 64; Savannah Sparrow, 24; Vesper Sparrow, 3; Slate-colored Junco, 200 (est.); Chipping Sparrow, 15; Field Sparrow, 74; White-throated Sparrow, 130 (est.); Fox Sparrow, 11; Swamp Sparrow, 8; Song Sparrow, 200 (est.). Total, 63 species; about 6,003 individuals. (Catbird, Pine Warbler, and Blue-headed Vireo were seen during the previous week. Red-headed Woodpeckers seem to have made their last appearance in this census area.)—*William C. Davis, Bob Holmes, II, Bob Holmes, III.*

PEA ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, PEA ISLAND AND OREGON INLET, Dare County, N. C. (Open water 50 pct., salt marsh, ponds and shore 30 pct., sand dunes mostly covered with high grass and few myrtle bushes 20 pct. Same area as in 1945 and subsequent counts.) Dec. 29, 1948. Clear to partly overcast; temp. 45 to 65 degrees; wind SW light. Four observers together. Total hours, 10 (on foot and truck); total miles, 45 (5 on foot and 40 by truck). Common Loon, 1; Horned Grebe, 3; Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Gannet, 150; Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Great Blue Heron, 7; Louisiana Heron, 1; Am. Bittern, 1; Whistling Swan, 28; Canada Goose, 10,000; Snow Goose, 11,500; Blue Goose, 6; Black Duck, 125; Gadwall, 8; Am. Pintail, 200; Green-winged Teal, 45; Shoveller, 45; Ring-necked Duck, 1; Lesser Scaup Duck, 4; Bufflehead, 10; Ruddy Duck, 3; White-winged Scoter, 7; Red-breasted Merganser, 40; Bald Eagle, 8; Marsh Hawk, 3; Duck Hawk, 1; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Coot, 35; Piping Plover, 5; Black-bellied Plover, 18; Killdeer, 15; Greater Yellow-legs, 1; Lesser Yellow-legs, 10; Red-backed Sandpiper, 3; Semi-palmated Sandpiper, 125; Western Sandpiper, 5; Sanderling, 30; Great Black-backed Gull, 60; Herring Gull, 1950; Ring-billed Gull, 3; Bonaparte's Gull, 30; Common Tern, 1; Royal Tern, 1; Tree Swallow, 15; Myrtle Warbler, 250; Eastern Meadowlark, 50; Red-wing, 5; Boat-tailed Grackle, 12; Purple Grackle, 2; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Seaside Sparrow, 3; Vesper Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 10; Snow Bunting, 19 (this was observed from distance of approx. 75 feet with 7x50 glasses by entire group). (Two additional tern-like birds observed of dark body with brown head with golden tinge; 1 Dovekie was picked up on beach of Pea Island on December 27 covered with oily substance; this bird was killed by cat on Dec 28.) Total, 55 species; about 24,866 individuals. Refuge Manager *Paul Sturm, Tommy Medlin, Brick Grantham and Joe Grantham*, of Smithfield, N. C., and *R. L. Wolff*, Goldsboro, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C. (Practically same area as previous counts: lakes and small ponds 40 pct., mixed pine and deciduous woodland 15 pct., deciduous woodland 10 pct., open fields 10 pct.)—Dec. 28; 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Clear in A.M., slightly

cloudy in P.M.; calm; temp. 28 to 50 degrees F.; ground bare, ice around edges of large lakes, small ponds ice-covered. Eleven observers in six parties. Total hours, 31 (27 on foot, 4 by car); total miles 35, (27 on foot, 8 by car). Pied-billed Grebe, 5; Great Blue Heron, 1; Mallard, 50; Black Duck, 8; Redhead, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 28; Lesser Scaup Duck, 6; Ruddy Duck, 4; Hooded Merganser, 4; Red-breasted Merganser, 3; Turkey Vulture, 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Killdeer, 11; Mourning Dove, 57; Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 18; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 8; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Pheobe, 1; Blue Jay, 76; Am. Crow, 32; Chickadee, 32; Tufted Titmouse, 18; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 7; Winter Wren, 2; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 26; Mockingbird, 42; Catbird 1; Brown Thrasher, 8; Robin, 10; Hermit Thrush, 11; Eastern Bluebird, 86; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 27; Shrike, 5; Starling, 347; Myrtle Warbler, 10; Pine Warbler, 9; English Sparrow, 63; Eastern Meadowlark, 92; Cardinal, 53; Am. Goldfinch, 50; Eastern Towhee (Red-eyed), 57; Savannah Sparrow, 27; Vesper Sparrow, 3; Junco, 238; Field Sparrow, 40; White-throated Sparrow, 148; Fox Sparrow, 7; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 86. (Bobwhite, 12, seen December 27, by Mrs. A. W. Strickland.) Total species, 61; 1782 individuals. *D. L. Wray* (compiler), *E. W. Winkler, J. W. Johnson, Phillip Davis, Robt. Overing, C. H. Bostian, Gene, Lee, and Lloyd Bostian, Mrs. A. W. Strickland, Ethel Wray.*

SPARTANBURG, S. C. (Center of town to points 9 miles south and east; Ezell woods, Ligon estate, Duncan Park, Fairforest meadow, Zimmerman Lake; open farmlands 25 pct., town suburbs 20 pct., mixed woodlands 40 pct., fresh-water ponds and marshes 15 pct.)—Jan. 2; dawn to dusk. Cloudy A.M., clear in P.M.; temp. 34 to 50 degrees F.; wind NW, 2-4 m.p.h. Nine observers in 2 parties; total miles, 25 (5 on foot, 20 by car). Pied-billed Grebe, 10; Mallard, 100; Black Duck, 30; Blue-winged Teal, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 20; Ruddy Duck, 5; Turkey Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Coot, 12; Killdeer, 20; Mourning Dove, 8; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 16; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 55; Am. Crow, 20; Carolina Chickadee, 37; Tufted Titmouse, 30; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 16; Mockingbird, 27; Brown Thrasher, 4; Hermit Thrush, 4; Eastern Bluebird, 46; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 7; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 33; Pipit, 100 (est.); Cedar Waxwing, 26; Loggerhead Shrike, 5; Starling, 29; Myrtle Warbler, 5; Pine Warbler, 9; English Sparrow, 100 (est.); Eastern Meadowlark, 40; Purple Grackle, 9; Cardinal, 53; Purple Finch, 9; Am. Goldfinch, 100 (est.); Eastern Towhee, 48; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Junco, 131; Chipping Sparrow, 6; Field Sparrow, 130; White-throated Sparrow, 64; Fox Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 27. Total, 51 species; about 1415 individuals. *Gabriel Cannon, Louisa Carlisle, Harold Correll, Ruth Crick, Margaret Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ligon, Tucker McCravy, R. E. Rupp.*

WINDOM, YANCEY COUNTY, N. C. (Farms of L. H. Hutchins, Mack Silver, Mrs. C. P. Gibson, and adjacent territory. Open farmland 50 pct., white pine woodland 2 pct., pastures 18 pct., deciduous forests 30 pct.)—Dec. 27; 8 A.M. to dusk. Clear; temp. 10 to 50 degrees F.; no wind. Three observers separately. Total hours, 21; total miles, 21 (all on foot). Cooper's Hawk, 1; Wilson's Snipe, 5; Mourning Dove, 9; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 21; Am. Crow, 131; Chickadee, 5; Tufted Titmouse, 12; Carolina Wren, 14; Robin, 1; Hermit Thrush, 1; Eastern Bluebird, 12; Starling, 6; English Sparrow, 196; Eastern Meadowlark, 14; Cardinal, 44; Am. Goldfinch, 126; Eastern Towhee (Red-eyed), 15; Junco, 101; Field

Sparrow, 97; White-throated Sparrow, 6; Fox Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 148. Total, 23 species; 969 individuals.—*Roosevelt Hughes, Paul Hughes, James Hutchins.*

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (Area included City water lake, Reynolda, and lakes and ponds vicinity Yadkin River; pine forest 20 pct., oak-hickory forest 30 pct., lakes and ponds 40 pct., old fields 10 pct.) Dec. 26, 1948; 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Fair, wind negligible. Temp. 10 to 33 degrees. Three observers; total hours 28; total miles on foot 15; total miles by auto 35. Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 2; Canada Goose, 262; Mallard, 59; Black Duck, 34; Baldpate, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 15; Lesser Scaup Duck, 1; Turkey Vulture, 2; Black Vulture, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 10; Killdeer, 2; Mourning Dove, 11; Barred Owl, 1; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 7; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 47; Am. Crow, 139; Carolina Chickadee, 58; Tufted Titmouse, 34; White-breasted Nuthatch, 16; Carolina Wren, 22; Mockingbird, 13; Robin, 20; Hermit Thrush, 1; Eastern Bluebird, 65; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 12; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 2; Cedar Waxwing, 30; Shrike, 1; Starling, 116; Myrtle Warbler, 39; English Sparrow, 36; Eastern Meadowlark, 4; Purple Grackle, 10; Cardinal, 34; Purple Finch, 15; Am. Goldfinch, 28; Eastern Towhee, 17; Junco, 475; Field Sparrow, 120; White-throated Sparrow, 86; Fox Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 63. Total: 51 species, 1931 individuals. Observers: *James L. Stephenson, E. Wayne Irvin, Robert H. Witherington* (compiler).

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(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following 1948 Christmas counts from Charleston, S.C., and Wilmington, N. C., arrived too late to be included in the general summary.)

CHARLESTON, S. C. (Bull's Island, adjacent waters and marshes, mainland opposite, back to Wando River, as in preceding years; farmland 20 pct., fresh water ponds and wooded swamps 25 pct., woods, mixed and pine 25 pct., salt water creeks, marshes and flats 25 pct., dunes and ocean front 5 pct.)—Dec. 31, dawn to dusk. Clear, cold, sunny. Temp. 36 to 50 degrees F.; wind NW, 10-25 m.p.h.; twenty observers in 5 parties. Total hours 31 (13 by car, 16 on foot, 2 on boat). Total miles 103 (24 on foot, 72 by car, 7 on boat). Common Loon, 7; Horned Grebe, 24; Pied-billed Grebe, 13; Brown Pelican, 1; Gannet, 2; Cormorant, 45; Great Blue Heron, 17; Am. Egret, 5; Snowy Egret, 11; Louisiana Heron, 10; Little Blue Heron, 14; Black-crowned Night Heron, 4; Mallard, 102 (est.); Black Duck, 215 (est.); Gadwall, 71; Baldpate, 1; Pintail, 42; Green-winged Teal, 15; Blue-winged Teal, 18; Shoveller, 66; Redhead, 5; Ring-necked Duck, 447; Canvasback, 170; Scaup, 134; Goldeneye, Am., 2; Bufflehead, 81;White-winged Scoter, 2; Surf Scoter, 2; Am. Scoter, 29; Ruddy Duck, 79; Hooded Merganser, 7; Red-breasted Merganser, 45; Turkey Vulture, 47; Black Vulture, 22; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 6; Red-shouldered Hawk, 7; Bald Eagle, 12; Marsh Hawk, 20; Osprey, 1; Duck Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 7; Bobwhite, 15; Wild Turkey, 14; Clapper Rail, 3; Sora, 1; Florida Gallinule, 6; Coot, 1500 (est.); Oyster-catcher, 200 (est.); Semipalmated Plover, 5; Killdeer, 1; Black-bellied Plover, 16; Ruddy Turnstone, 4; Wilson's Snipe, 5; Spotted Sandpiper, 1; Willet, 1; Lesser Yellow-legs, 6; Red-backed Sandpiper, 20; "Peep" sp., 1; Dowitcher, 3; Marbled Godwit, 100 (est.); Sanderling, 18; Herring Gull, 63; Laughing Gull, 8; Ring-billed Gull, 21; Forster's Tern, 25; Caspian Tern, 2; Black Skimmer, 1; Mourning Dove, 32; Ground Dove, 3; Screech Owl, 1; Great Horned Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 7; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 15; Pileated Woodpecker, 8; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 21; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 3;

Downy Woodpecker, 7; Red-cockaded Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 12; Tree Swallow, 3; Blue Jay, 7; Am. Crow, 102 (est.); Fish Crow, 75 (est.); Carolina Chickadee, 49; Tufted Titmouse, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 6; Brown Creeper, 3; House Wren, 10; Carolina Wren, 15; Long-billed Marsh Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 14; Catbird, 6; Brown Thrasher, 6; Robin 438 (est.); Hermit Thrush, 6; Eastern Bluebird, 30; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 12; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 28; Am. Pipit, 97; Cedar Waxwing, 4; Shrike, 10; Starling, 15; White-eyed Vireo, 5; Blue-headed Vireo, 3; Myrtle Warbler, 423 (est.); Yellow-throated Warbler, 1; Pine Warbler, 29; Yellow-throat, 3; English Sparrow, 5; Eastern Meadowlark, 163; Red-wing, 328 (est.); Boat-tailed Grackle, 1; Cowbird, 220; Cardinal, 38; Am. Goldfinch, 109; Towhee, Red-eyed Eastern, 41; Towhee, White-eyed Eastern, 1; Ipswich Sparrow, 3; Savannah Sparrow, 33; Sharp-tailed Sparrow, 2; Seaside Sparrow, 4; Vesper Sparrow, 7; Junco, 23; Chipping Sparrow, 267; Field Sparrow, 51; White-throated Sparrow, 155; Fox Sparrow, 13; Swamp Sparrow, 46; Song Sparrow, 35. Total species, 134; total individuals, about 6936. A number of shorebirds were missed due to unfavorable tidal condiitions. *Bob Barnett, Louise Barrington, E. Milby Burton, Robert D. Edwards, Frances L. Edwards, Peter Gething, Julian Harrison, Arthur Jenkins, Peter Manigault, M. L. McCrae, E. O. Mellinger, James E. Mosimann, Louis Parker, Jr., George B. Rabb, James Roe, Newton H. Seebeck, Jr.,* (compiler), *Alexander Sprunt, Jr., Alexander Sprunt, IV, Thomas M. Uzzell, Elison A. Williams.*

WILMINGTON, N. C. (New Hanover and Brunswick Counties, fourth count in area; Wrightsville Beach and Sound, Masonboro and Greenville Sounds, Winter Park, Greenfield Lake, Orton Plantation. Mixed pine and deciduous woodland 60 pct., pasture 5 pct., fresh water ponds and river 15 pct., beach and salt water marsh 20 pct.) —Dec. 27, dawn to dusk. Clear to partly cloudy. Wind NW shifting to SW and E in A.M.; south shortly after noon then shifted to NW; 9 m.p.h. early, 4 m.p.h. noon, 11 m.p.h. after 3:00 P.M. Temp. 23 to 47 degrees. Ground bare; water open. Twenty-one observers in 8 parties. Total hours 67 (40 on foot; 27 in cars). Total miles 115 (45 on foot, 70 by car). Common Loon, 31; Red-throated Loon, 4; Horned Grebe, 37; Pied-billed Grebe, 52; Gannet, 35; Double-crested Cormorant, 36; Great Blue Heron, 19; Am. Egret, 4; Snowy Egret, 5; Louisiana Heron, 10; Little Blue Heron, 3; Green Heron, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 52; Canada Goose, 473; Am. Brant, 1 (seen at close range on beach by Bob Holmes); Mallard, 3; Black Duck, 38; Gadwall, 12; Baldpate, 123; Pintail, 9; Green-winged Teal, 162; Wood Duck, 6; Ring-necked Duck, 56; Greater Scaup, 5 (Holmes); Lesser Scaup, 90; Am. Golden-eye, 8; Bufflehead, 67; Old Squaw, 6; Am. Scoter, 32; Ruddy Duck, 3; Hooded Merganser, 67; Am. Merganser, 9; Red-breasted Merganser, 427; Turkey Vulture, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 11; Bald Eagle, 15; Marsh Hawk, 8; Osprey, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 9; Bobwhite, 35; King Rail, 2; Clapper Rail, 3; Florida Gallinule, 1; Coot, 92; Oyster Catcher, 12; Piping Plover, 4 (Holmes); Semi-palmated Plover, 9; Wilson's Plover, 20; Killdeer, 34; Blackbellied Plover, 32; Woodcock, 2; Wilson's Snipe, 9; Willet, 1; Greater Yellow-legs, 5; Lesser Yellow-legs, 4; Purple Sandpiper, 3 (Holmes; observed at close range on jetty; seen several times later in the week by Appleberry and Baker); Least Sandpiper, 1; Red-backed Sandpiper, 1; Dowitcher, 15; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 5; Sanderling, 91; Herring Gull, 2250 (est.); Ring-billed Gull, 600 (est.); Laughing Gull, 30; Bonaparte's Gull, 10; Forster's Tern, 5; Common Tern, 4; Royal Tern, 15; Caspian Tern, 7; Black Tern, 1 (Funderburg and Mitchell); Black Skimmer, 250 (est.); Mourning Dove, 24; Great Horned Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 16; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 17; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 18; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Red-cockaded Woodpecker, 12 (C. McAllister); Arkansas Kingbird, 1 (C. Appleberry and Baker);

Phoebe, 3; Tree Swallow, 9; Blue Jay, 196; Am. Crow, 52; Fish Crow, 22; Carolina Chickadee, 121; Tufted Titmouse, 57; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 187; House Wren, 8; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 42; Long-billed Marsh Wren, 1; Short-billed Marsh Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 73; Catbird, 11; Brown Thrasher, 27; Robin, 332; Hermit Thrush, 19; Eastern Bluebird, 82; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 18; Am. Pipit, 300 (est.); Cedar Waxwing, 51; Shrike, 17; Starling, 300 (est.); Blue-headed Vireo, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 266; Pine Warbler, 18; Prairie Warbler, 1 (Holmes, C. Appleberry, and Baker); Palm Warbler, 1; Yellow-throat, 1; English Sparrow, 527 (est.); Eastern Meadowlark, 243; Red-wing, 834 (est.); Rusty Blackbird, 2 (Holmes); Boat-tailed Grackle, 15; Purple Grackle, 7; Cowbird, 86; Cardinal, 66; Purple Finch, 34; Am. Goldfinch, 86; Eastern Towhee, 54; Savannah Sparrow, 46; Sharp-tailed Sparrow, 1 (Trott and Mebane); Seaside Sparrow, 10; Vesper Sparrow, 27; Junco, 68; Chipping Sparrow, 44; Field Sparrow, 106; White-throated Sparrow, 397; Fox Sparrow, 38; Swamp Sparrow, 17; Song Sparrow, 211. Total, 139 species; about 10,744 individuals. (Seen in area Dec. 26: Canvasback, 2; Dec. 28: Brown Pelican, 1; Black Vulture, 1; Jan. 4: 1 male European Widgeon showed up among the Baldpates on Greenfield Lake; has been seen every day since then by a number of club members; has been seen several times about 20 feet from lake edge.) *Mrs. Sibbel Turnbull, Mary Urich, Leona Carroll, J. A. Bodine, Ruth Loman, Mrs. Howard Smith, Mrs. Boyd Quarles, Mary Baker, Cecil Appleberry, Polly Mebane, John Trott, John Funderburg, Ernest Mitchell, Claude McAllister, Don McAllister, Maurice Emmart, Steve Smith, Charles Theobald, Bob Holmes, Kenneth Sprunt, Edna Appleberry* (compiler). Warm weather may have kept some of the birds in the north later than usual. There was a decided drop in the number of Myrtle Warblers, Pine Warblers, Palm Warblers, Chipping Sparrows, Juncos, Red-headed Woodpeckers. Kenneth Sprunt reported that ducks were more abundant at Orton and there are more species and greater numbers on Greenfield Lake. We still feel that a few more experienced observers to help us would bring to light a number of species not reported as yet. For instance, the European Widgeon may have been here before but not recognized.

## An American Discovers British Birds

By Jack F. Dermid, 27-E Vetville, Raleigh, N. C.

(Part II. Continued from the November 1948 issue of *The Chat.*)

Hoping the small kingfisher would return, I lingered for sometime beside the stream and, as a result, discovered two more interesting members of Britain's avifauna. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw the slight movement of a bird on the ground. Using binoculars, I was surprised to find a large, green bird, for one seldom sees birds of that color. It had a bright crimson crown, a black patch on the side of its head, and the general shape of a woodpecker. The bird appeared to be feeding on something, yet its beak seldom touched the ground; instead, it ejected and withdrew its tongue in a toad-like manner. To satisfy my own curiosity, I flushed the bird and found that it had been sitting on a large ant hill and had been greedily licking up the insects. Then, with the aid of my handbook, I positively identified it as a Green Woodpecker. Before I had put the book away, a Long-tailed Tit attracted my attention as it searched for insects in a nearby beech tree. It was a tiny bird, with a tail nearly twice as long as its body and with a touch of rose blended in its black and white plumage.

I soon made my way to the edge of the woods and found an orchard before me. On the ground in one corner, a number of gaudily-colored birds were dancing about

and making quite a variety of peculiar utterances. It was a jay carnival, nothing else! They were a sight to behold with their blue, white, and black wings glistening in the sunlight. Add a black and white striped crest, black whisker marks, rufous upper parts, a white rump, a black tail, and the picture of the British Jay is complete. It was not long before the show was over, however, for one of the birds discovered my presence. There was a sudden outburst of loud, harsh calls, and the jays were gone

An inviting footpath lured me on. On one side, there was a dense hedge row, on the other, an extensive field. In the distance, I saw a bird with long-pointed wings circling about in a carefree manner. It was a medium-sized falcon; but even with binoculars, I did not see any definite markings, only a general brown color. Suddenly, the bird stopped in midair, and fanning its wings at a terrific rate, hovered for a long interval, so long that I expected it to fall exhausted to the ground. Then it began circling again, but not for long. After hanging stationary in the air for a second time, the falcon darted to the earth after its prey. Then it rose slowly and flew away. Before the impression of the bird faded from my mind, I turned to my handbook and identified it as a Kestrel.

At the top of the hill, the footpath made a sharp turn. When I rounded the corner, I literally walked into a flock of crows. Or were they crows? Why had not a sentinel warned the flock of my approach? Why, after suddenly finding a man in their midst, had they been so reluctant to move to other feeding grounds. It was not ethical for real crows to behave in such a manner. Even while flying away, the birds had not protested boldly against my intrusion and warned all the denizens of the countryside. Instead, a few grunts and feeble caws had been the only attempt toward vocalization. In size and appearance, the birds were similar to crows, except for a white patch of bare skin around the base of their beaks. And by that mark, I was able to identify them as Rooks, which are, however, close relatives of the crow.

Walking down the hill toward a large pasture, I observed quite a number of birds that I have already mentioned and added several new ones to my list. A Spotted Flycatcher, a small, brown-colored bird, entertained me by making brief flights into the air in pursuit of insects. Sunning themselves in a tall pine, a group of Magpies chattered together noisily. Now and then two or three of the birds left their perch to play aerial games, such as only Magpies can play. As far as I could tell there was no appreciable difference between the British Magpie and those of our western states. In a hedgerow, I found it difficult to follow the movements of a Blackcap Warbler, a bird of drab plumage and superlative voice.

Before long, I was halfway across the upper end of a meadow that sloped gently away toward the River Avon. Cattle had eaten the grass down close to the ground, and I hardly expected to find any birds. Then, on a slight rise in the field, a Yellow Wagtail paused long enough for me to focus by binoculars on it. While watching this yellow, olive-green and brown bird, I was startled to see a plover-like bird with a long-pointed crest walk into my field of view. I had never before seen a shore bird with a crest. It was strange looking, larger than a Killdeer, and peculiarly marked with black and white. As I approached it, the bird ran ahead in an effort to keep a certain distance away from me. Finally, I forced it to fly, and it furnished me with a second surprise. Its wings were so broad and rounded that the bird seemed twice as large in the air as it did on the ground. Large white patches on its wings flashed in the sunlight as it circled over the meadow. With the aid of my handbook, it was easy to identify the conspicuous bird as a Lapwing, a member of the plover family.

Sometime later, when I paused to rest beside a small stream, I was honored by a visit of the handsome European Goldfinch. At first it landed in a bush nearby, presumably to survey the situation. The bird turned its crimson, white, and black head to one side and peered curiously toward me, then in the direction of a clump of seed-laden dandelions. Apparently it considered me as harmless, for it darted to the waiting food. And only a yard away, the Goldfinch hovered beside a fuzzy ball of seeds,

pecking it furiously and sending future dandelions to the mercy of the wind. On wings of yellow and black, it flew back to its perch, but soon decided to search for food elsewhere.

I left the stream and made my way through a woods until I reached a small clearing. Then, with a startling roar of wings, two Pheasants flushed from almost under my feet. Hardly before the birds had disappeared, a tall man, dressed in outdoor clothing, rushed toward me and accused me of trespassing on private property. In reply, I showed him my bird book and tactfully told him my reasons for wandering about the British countryside. It was not long before we were friends and were comparing the wildlife of our two countries. The man introduced himself as the gamekeeper of a large estate, and his job consisted of destroying predators, patrolling the property in search of poachers, and generally improving the environment for game.

The gamekeeper invited me to accompany him while he finished making a check of his trapline. It was in interesting walk. Along one trail in the woods, he removed several rabbits from simple, but very effective wire snares. Once, while we paused to talk, a large hare, resembling a jack rabbit, bounded slowly past us. On a low branch, the gamekeeper showed me a new bird to add to my list. It was a Blue Tit, small and dainty, and attractively dressed in blue, white, black and yellow.

As we approached an old tree at the edge of the woods, a Tawny Owl emerged from a large cavity and sneaked to a hidden perch on silent wings. My acquaintance told me that an owl had been nesting there for several years and that he had not attempted to destroy it, for it was a beneficial species. I climbed to the hollow in which the nest was located. When I peered inside, three tiny owlets, covered with white down, stared blankly back at me. Evidently the parent birds believed in keeping the larder well supplied, for there were two dead mice and a young rabbit in the nest. Soon I grew tired of the powerful stench of decaying flesh and descended to the ground. The Tawny Owl is a medium-sized owl with a plumage of various shades of brown.

Before we separated, the gamekeeper told me where a heronry and a rookery were located. His terminology seemed rather vague; so I questioned him. In Britain, I was informed, the nesting place of gregarious birds is named after the respective species.

In order to reach the heronry, it was necessary for me to cross a large field. There I discovered the Skylark, the oft-praised songster of the Old World. And it was by its continuous song of silvery, carefree notes that I first located the bird as it hovered over the ground. After several minutes of singing in the blue, the skylark dropped back to earth and disappeared among the grasses, but only a short time elapsed before it again sprayed the countryside with music. It was not a beautiful bird, however, with its streaked-brown plumage and white outer tail feathers.

The heronry was a disappointment to me, for all the nests were in the top of tall pines and appeared as masses of stick against the sky. After the gamekeeper had told me that it was one of the largest heronries in England, I had expected to find more than barely three dozen nests. However, I saw several European Herons, which were about the size of the American Egret and generally dressed in gray and white with a long, black crest.

In a small pond near the heronry, I paused to watch a Waterhen escort its brood of six chicks, mere balls of brown fluff. What a beautiful picture the family made as it glided silently along, seven individual wakes in the placid water and seven rhythmically bobbing heads. When the parent bird discovered my presence, it immediately maneuvered its young into the sanctuary of the vegetation along the opposite shore. The Waterhen was comical in appearance, somewhat chicken-like, dark colored with a bright red frontal shield and yellow-tipped bill.

Sometime before I reached the rookery, I heard the combined chorus of many young and old Rooks. As I approached closer, I heard gutteral alarm notes above the din; and when I walked under the nests, dozens and dozens of the large black birds rose

into the air and circled frantically above the treetops, producing all sorts of grunting and cawing sounds. My first impulse was to leave the uproar as quickly as possible, for all the many nests were high in the trees. One maple, however, looked easy to climb, and it was all the encouragement I needed. Each upward surge I made increased the frenzy of the parents a bit more. Of the nine nests in the tree, I was able to reach only two. One contained four green and brown eggs and the other held three dark-skinned infants. While I was in the tree none of the rooks attacked me, but their vocal objections induced me to quickly descend the tree and leave the area. Incidentally, the rookery was located within a hundred yards of a large country mansion.

By now it was time for me to return to camp, and I followed a beautiful trail through the woods until I reached the highway. While waiting on the bus I heard, over and over again, the mysterious call of a Cuckoo. It was a fitting end to a glorious day spent in the outdoors, and I regarded it as an invitation to return, to relive my adventures, and to discover more intriguing birds of Britain.

[The End]

## Field Notes and News

DOVEKIE PICKED UP AT PAWLEY'S ISLAND, S. C.: A female Dovekie, *Plautus alle* L., was picked up in a dying condition, Oct., 29, 1948, at Pawley's Island, Georgetown County, S.C., by Dr. John H. Jopson. The bird died soon afterward. Strong northeast winds, which had been blowing for several days, was probably responsible for casting the bird ashore. The skin is preserved in the collection of Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va.

Harry G. M. Jopson, Biology Dept., Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va.

SCARLET TANAGERS SEEN DURING SUMMERS IN GUILFORD COUNTY, N. C.: A note received from Mrs. Edith Settan, Greensboro, N. C., reported the observation of a Scarlet Tanager every day from June 17th to July 25, 1946, at Whitsett, Guliford County, N. C. In checking later with Larry Crawford, a careful observer from Greensboro, Crawford stated that at Camp Graystone, Guilford County, Scarlet Tanagers were seen, in pairs and singly all during the summer of 1946, and a family was seen during the month of July. Crawford also reported that Scarlet Tanagers were seen at Camp Greystone during the summers of 1944 and 1945. (On May 18th, 1947, at Hanging Rock State Park, in Stokes County, Oscar Paris and about twenty other members of the Piedmont Bird Club observed a pair of Summer Tanagers building a nest, though observation a week or two later by John Carr showed that this nest was abandoned.) A. D. S.

GREENVILLE, S. C.: The Greenville, S. C., Bird Club as yet has a small number of field observers, and there was no organized party in the field during the period for the 1948 Christmas count. However one observer was out on Jan. 1 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and on Jan. 2 one observer was in the field from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 and 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., and two observers from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.; Jan. 1 was clear, calm, and mild; Jan. 2 was partly cloudy and cool until noon, but the afternoon was clear and mild. The list of species is deemed fairly representative for the time and number of observers: Pied-billed Grebe, Cooper's Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Killdeer, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl (dead), Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Blue Jay, Am. Crow, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Hermit Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Shrike, Starling, Myrtle Warbler, English Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Redwing, Purple Grackle, Cardinal,

Purple Finch, Am. Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Junco, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total species 39.—*May Puett, Ruth Gilreath, P. M. Jenness* (compiler).

SEVERAL THOUSAND COOTS WINTERING NEAR MYRTLE BEACH, S. C. On Nov. 27-28, while week-ending at my sister's cottage at Ocean Drive Beach, S. C., a party consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overing and daughters, Vinal and Joanna, my sister, Miss Alleetah Hilton, and I were driving along U. S. Highway 17, between Crescent Beach and Myrtle Beach, when, in White's Swash, we saw several hundred Coots within a short distance of the highway. Further back were many more hundreds, and in every cove were many more. We walked along the swash, and later drove a few hundred feet farther back, where in numberous coves we saw large rafts of Coots. In one place they were so thick they blackened the water. All in all, Mr. Overing estimated there were between four and five thousand. Mr. Eyerling, owner of the tract, said they had been coming here for years. He also stated that some remained and nested. In North Carolina, according to *Birds of North Carolina* (Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley—1942), we have no positive records of nesting Coots.

There were also a few egrets to be seen on Nov. 27, and one Ward's Great Blue Heron, a larger and much lighter bird that the Great Blue Heron.

Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh, N. C.

(In *Birds of Georgia,* Green, Griffin, Odum, Stoddard, Tomkins, 1945, it is recorded that Burleigh found several nests, two with eggs, in Dougherty County, Georgia, on July 16, 1929, which appears to be the only breeding record for that state. In *Birds of South Carolina,* Wayne, 1910, it is stated that the Coot does not breed in the vicinity of Charleston.—Ed.)

## Notes on Birds Collected at Highlands, N. C.

David W. Johnston and H. V. Autry

Since the fall of 1946 the writers, and Dr. E. P. Odum and Robert Norris, all of the University of Georgia, have made periodic trips to Highlands, N. C., for the purpose of studying bird and mammal populations, and on each of these trips a few birds were collected with the intention of ascertaining which subspecies occur in the area. These birds have been critically examined by Drs. John W. Aldrich and Alexander Wetmore, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Museum, Washington, D. C., and Thos. D. Burleigh, Fish and Wildlife Service, now in Moscow, Idaho. All the specimens were collected at altitudes above 3500 feet, and the majority of them were taken about 4000 feet. Of some forty specimens the following seem significant to mention since the Highlands Plateau probably represents an area of overlapping for several northern and southern subspecies.

Southern Hairy Woodpecker—*Dendrocopos villosus audubonii.* A female was collected June 17, 1947.

Northern Blue Jay—*Cyanocitta cristata bromia.* One female was taken Oct. 27, 1946, and a male June 10, 1947. Two intermediates between *bromia* and the southern form *cristata* were collected: a female on June 12, 1947, and a male on June 16, 1947.

Northern Carolina Chickadee—*Parus carolinensis extimus.* An immature female collected on Oct. 27, 1946, and a female taken June 12, 1947, are both *extimus.*

Southern Winter Wren—*Troglodytes hiemalis pullus.* On June 23, 1930, Burleigh and A. H. Howell found the winter wren singing in the Primeval Forest near Highlands. We have been unable to find the bird during the past three summers since the cutting of the Primeval Forest. A male taken Oct. 27, 1946, proved to be this race.

Red-eyed Towhee—*Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus.* Five specimens: a male, June 12, 1947, three males, June 14, 1947, and a male, June 16, 1947. A male with an almost white iris (slightly buffy tinge) was collected June 17, 1947, and is considered by Burleigh as an intermediate between *erythrophthalmus* and *canaster* (Alabama Towhee).

Swamp Sparrow—*Melospiza georgiana.* Heretofore unrecorded from the high altitude of Highlands. Several birds were seen on a small lake within the town limits on Oct. 27, 1946.

*Department of Zoology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.*

(Sept. 25, 1948.)

## MISS E. ANNETTE HINDS—IN MEMORIAM

Miss E. Annette Hinds, president of the Asheville Bird Club, passed away in Asheville, Sept. 28, 1948, after ten days illness due to a heart attack. Miss Hinds, who was 65 years old, had been a resident of Asheville for the past nine years, and was a leader in the organization of the Asheville Bird Club in 1945. She was a native of Townsend, Mass.; received a part of her formal education at Columbia University and Cornell University; and was a member of the faculty at Russell Sage College, Troy, N. Y., until her retirement because of ill health. Among surviving relatives are two sisters, Miss Alice E. Hinds, Asheville, with whom she resided, and Mrs. Mabelle H. Cole, Lake May, Fla. In Asheville Miss Hinds was active in community and church work. Her passing was sincerely regretted, and the Asheville Bird Club particularly will miss her enthusiasm and leadership.

MARGARET A. ALLEN

## With the Editor

CREDIT FOR THE BELL TOWER PICTURE—in Joe Jones' article in this issue of *The Chat*, is due to the University of North Carolina Alumnae Association.

DICK WEAVER HAS ARTICLE IN *NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION*: "A Grassroots Birth," a story of the Resource Use Education movement, written by Dr. Richard Weaver, Program Director of the North Carolina Resource Use Commission, and member of Editorial Board of *The Chat*, appears in the December issue of *North Carolina Education.*

BIRD SONG RECORDS: The Avis Bird Song Records, three double faced records, for entertainment and teaching recognition of 26 American birds by their songs, are available from Winthrop Packard, Plymouth, Mass. Drop him a card requesting information regarding the type of records and prices. . . The Albert R. Brand bird song records from the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, are now

available on Vinylite records. The six records, including songs of 72 American wild birds, may be secured from Comstock Publishing Co., Inc., 124 Roberts Place, Cornell Heights, Ithaca, New York. The price is $8.50 for the album.

BROLEYS AT TAMPA, FLA.: Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Broley, Canadians who, after retiring, took up Eagle banding as a hobby, spent a few days in North Carolina during November, while on their way to Florida, and stopped over night at the home of Miss Sara Giddens, in Goldsboro. They are now at Tampa, where they will spend six months before returning to Canada.

THE AVIAN EGG—is the title of a 906-page book by Alexis and Anastasia Romanoff, published this month by John Wiley & Sons, New York. Dr. Romanoff is Professor of Chemical Embryology at Cornell University, and the book presents the results of over 20 years of research on birds' eggs, and should be useful to biologists, chemists, poultrymen, and nutritionists. Fully illustrated, the book is priced at $14.00.

C. B. C. MEMBERS PICTURED IN AUDUBON MAGAZINE: Two members of Carolina Bird Club, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Greensboro, N. C., and Mrs. Norman B. Beecher, Asheville, N. C., who attended the Annual Convention of the National Audubon Society in New York last October, have their pictures prominently displayed with some other convention attendants, on page 372 of the Nov.-Dec. issue of *Audubon Magazine*.

CLEVELAND GRANT TO BE AT GREENSBORO AND CHARLOTTE: Cleveland Grant, with some of his beautiful colored moving pictures of birds and other American wildlife will be heard and seen at Greensboro, sponsored by the Piedmont Bird Club, at Aycock Auditorium at 8:00 o'clock on Friday evening, Feb. 18, admission free. . . . Grant will be in Charlotte and give a lecture-entertainment with colored moving pictures at 8:00 o'clock on Saturday evening, Feb. 19, at Charlotte's First Methodist Church.

LOCAL CLUBS—that contemplate the possibility of sponsoring Audubon Screen Tours in their city during the 1949-50 season should write at once to National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y., for a copy of the handsome packet which they have assembled, describing 20 of the nation's outstanding lecturers, conservationists, and naturalists, and the lecture-programs, with colored moving pictures, which they will present next season throughout the United States, in communities of every size. February is the month when National Audubon Society must hear from local sponsors regarding their decisions to participate in the 1949-1950 series.

SLIDE PICTURES AVAILABLE FOR LOAN: The North Carolina State Museum, Raleigh, N. C., has available for loan to responsible school and club personnel, a large number of 2x2 colored slides and "Filmslides," pictures of birds and other nature subjects. Among the 2x2 slides are the following: (a) Birds of the Eastern United States, 94 slides with pictures of 150 birds; (b) Audubon series, 130 Kodachromes of individual birds; (c) A series of Kodachrome slides which show our 7 species of poisonous or dangerous snakes. The Slide Films include (a) Our Earth, a series of 5 films, "How Our Earth Came to Be," "Our Earth is Changing," "How Rocks are Formed," "The Earth's Story as Written in the Rocks," and "The Soil"; and (b) a series of films on birds, "Bird Nests," "Structure of Birds," Adaptations of Birds," "How Birds Serve Man," and "Helping the Birds." The Bird Slide Films are suitable for both elementary and high school groups, while Our Earth is best suited for the higher grades, chiefly in connection with physical geography, geology, or resource use education. The cost to you is the mailing charges or express. You are asked to return them promptly so they can be used by other groups. You will need a 2x2 projector and a Film Slide projector to project these pictures.

# New and Reinstated Members of Carolina Bird Club

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(Notification of correction or change of address should be sent to: Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Editor, *The Chat*, W. C., U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.)

Raleigh, N. C.

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Columbia Natural History Society: P—Gilbert J. Bristow; V-P—Harry Hampton; T—Dr. Paul J. Philson; S—Mrs. Clyde Sisson; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Mrs. G. E. Charles.

Greenville Bird Club: P—Miss May W. Puett; V-P—P. M. Jennes; S-T—Mrs. Louis C. Tolleson.

# The Chat

## BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

BLUE GOOSE (*Chen caerulescens* L.) at Gaddy's Goose Pond, Ansonville, N. C.

VOL. XIII MARCH, 1949 No. 2

*Published by*

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Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

# The Chat


BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.



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**Read Announcement of Annual Meeting—
On Inside Back Cover**

# C.B.C. Holds Field Trip at Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge

One of Carolina Bird Club's most successful field trips was held at Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, January 14-16. Lake Mattamuskeet, which is located in Hyde County, on the eastern coast of North Carolina, covers a great share of the near 50,000 acres of the refuge with water two feet or less in depth, so is an ideal winter home for migratory waterfowl.

The program for the week-end included field trips around the lake by trucks and afoot, and a boat trip on Pamlico sound off Swanquarter. On these trips, 81 species of waterfowl, shore birds, and songs birds were observed, as well as Bald Eagles.

An informal meeting was held in Lake Mattamuskeet Lodge Saturday night, in charge of C. B. C. President, B. R. Chamberlain. Bob Wolff, of Winston-Salem, N. C., reported on the findings of a joint committee with representatives from the Dominion Wildlife Service of Canada and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service which made a survey of the duck and geese breeding grounds in 1947 and 1948. Although there has been a great drop in waterfowl from 1944 to 1948, the survey showed that 15% more waterfowl used the National refuges in the spring migration of 1948 than in 1947, with the greatest gains on the refuges in the Atlantic and Pacific flyways. W. G. Cahoon, Lake Mattamuskeet Refuge Manager, gave a brief history of the Mattamuskeet refuge area, which was purchased by the federal government in 1934 as a winter home for migratory waterfowl. Cahoon mentioned the work which was required on the refuge, and stated that if the price of the federal duck stamps were increased from $1 to $2, land for supervised hunting around refuges could be purchased and operating and maintenance expenses could be defrayed. Approximately 5,000 acres on the Lake Mattamuskeet refuge is set off for use by hunters, who must be accompanied by guides. Mr. Cahoon said that a decrease in violations has been noted although there are more hunters. However, on refuges where no hunting is permitted, there is an increase in birds. A plane furnished by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission was used in January to make a bird census at the lake, and Mr. Cahoon reported the following relations of the January 1949 count to the January 1948 count: 50 per cent increase in Pintails; 12 per cent increase in Canada Geese; 5 per cent increase in Black Ducks; Mallards about the same as 1948; 5 per cent increase in Whistling Swans; and 25 per cent increase in Green-winged Teal.

The main speaker at the Saturday night meeting was Win Donat, Assistant Chief of the Education Division of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Mr. Donat stated that the Commission was created by the 1947 session of the legislature, to take care of all game birds and animals, non-game birds and animals, and fish in waters over which the Commission has jurisdiction. The Commission derives its income from the sale of hunting, fishing, trapping, and guiding licenses, and from permits to retain wild animals and buy furs. For certain phases of its work, money is received from the Pittman-Robertson Fund of the Federal Government. In summarizing its purposes, it was stated that the Commission wants to educate the youth, to put the entire conservation story of the state under one publication, and to give the people of North Carolina a fairness of administration in the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission; it also advocates increased funds for supervised hunting. Mr. Donat believes the objectives of the Commission and the Carolina Bird Club are so parallel that the two should have no difficulty in cooperation with one another.

No trip would be complete without a few laurels to the planners. Bob Wolff did a splendid job, even to ordering ideal weather conditions. The kindness of the officials

at Mattamuskeet in answering questions and conducting the field trips will be long remembered. As B. R. Chamberlain said, "We regret more of our fellow bird club members weren't along to share the fun of the trip." Among C. B. C. members and others who participated in the week-end activities were the following: B. R. Chamberlain, Norman Chamberlain, Brem Mayer, Miss Sarah Nooe, Miss Bea Potter, and Mrs. George Potter, Charlotte; J. W. Clinard, Miss Minnie Gwaltney, and Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Menzies, Hickory; Frank Sherrill, Statesville; Miss Mary Huff, Jackson; Phillip Davis, Mrs. Mary Guy, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overing, Raleigh; John Trott, Mrs. Harold Walters, and Dr. Richard Weaver, Chapel Hill; Ben Langdon, Smithfield; Miss Eunice Borden, W. M. Craven, Miss Mary Michaux, Dillon Wooten, and Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Wooten, Goldsboro; Bob Wolff, Winston-Salem; Joe Adams, Swanquarter; and Miss Lunette Barber, Clayton.

(Reported by Bea Potter, Mecklenburg Audubon Club.)

## Birds at Mealtime

By Jack Dermid, Raleigh, N. C.

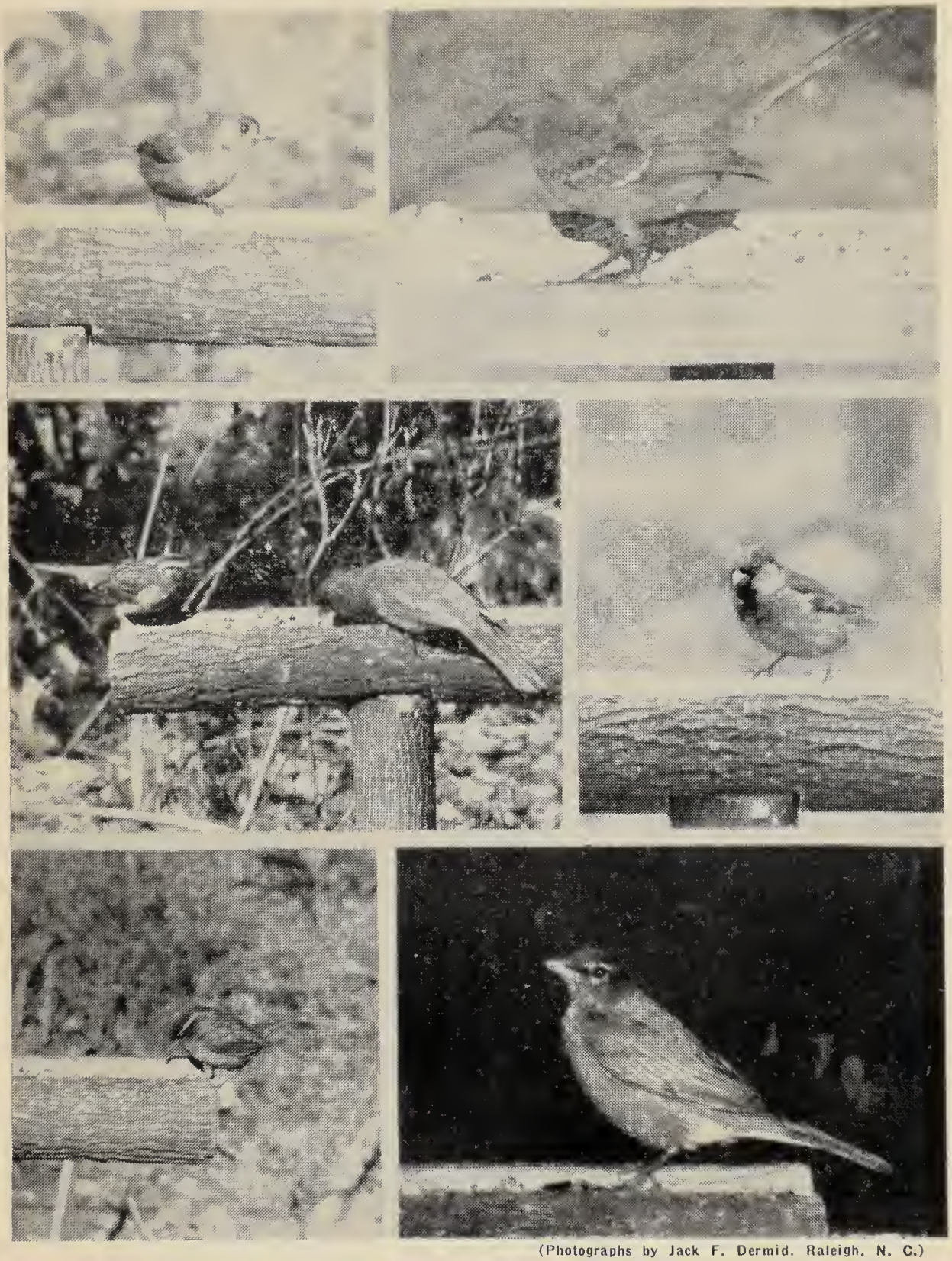
During the winter months, it is an easy matter to attract many species of birds to the garden by providing food for them. The observer will find a feeding station the scene of an ever changing parade of bird life, and the nature photographer will find it an excellent place to record many new subjects without leaving his own yard. In the following paragraphs, I will relate a few experiences that I enjoyed while photographing birds during several days of January, 1947.

The first bird to appear on the feeding station after the camera was placed in position was the Tufted Titmouse. In fact, the bird waited impatiently on its perch while I was nearby and then stole away with a seed before I could return to the remote control apparatus of the camera. Soon another Titmouse came and flew away in an instant. A third one landed on top of the camera and called loudly before flying to the feeding tray. After leisurely selecting a sunflower seed, the Titmouse held it in its beak and unknowingly posed for a picture. All three birds continued to feed for some time; and like perfect gentlemen, each Titmouse waited for its turn to visit the tray.

At first English Sparrows were suspicious of the camera, but finally a male bird summoned enough courage to face the instrument. The click of the shutter sent it scurrying. However, it was not long before the sparrow returned with a number of comrades. While most of the birds flew to the ground, one bird landed on the feeding tray and, to the delight of those below, ate so greedily that it scattered seeds far and wide. It was necessary for me to chase the sparrows away to keep them from eating everything. Another glutton of the bird world is the Starling. When a flock of them descend upon a feeding station, it is only a matter of minutes before the food is completely devoured.

The Mockingbird is truly the king of the neighborhood. It only has to swoop low across the yard to frighten all the birds from the vicinity of the feeding station. And it seems to particularly enjoy chasing the larger birds. On one occasion a Mockingbird attacked a Robin the instant it landed upon the tray. Of course the Robin retreated, and the Mockingbird chased it from perch to perch for many minutes.

As a rule, Robins are very dignified and well-behaved visitors of the station. They seldom infringe upon the right of other birds and usally wait until the tray is unoccupied before coming for food. When the Robin I photographed appeared, it remained motionless with its head held high for a long time. Then it carefully



(Photographs by Jack F. Dermid, Raleigh, N. C.)

BIRDS AT MEALTIME

Tufted Titmouse
White-throated Sparrow
Carolina Wren

Cardinal

Mockingbird
English Sparrow (male)
Robin

chose a seed and resumed the same position. Neither the sudden light from the flashbulb or the noise of the shutter startled the Robin, for it continued to feed leisurely as if nothing had happened.

Cardinals frequently come for a meal. Although the female birds seem to be rather timid, the males perch for long periods on the edge of the station, and extract the meat from the husk of sunflower seeds with a grinding motion of their beaks. One Cardinal would not tolerate the presence of another bird on the tray with it. It chased away several birds but failed to intimidate a White-throated Sparrow by spreading out its tail and erecting its crest; so it nonchalantly began eating. Often, many Cardinals are in the yard, but I have not seen more than one at a time on the feeding station.

When the Carolina Chickadee visits the station, it is in such a hurry to eat that I have found difficulty in making a good picture of it. The bird either has its back to the lens or moves its head too rapidly for the shutter to stop the action. On many negatives the head of the chickadee turned out to be nothing more than a blur. It is a very friendly bird, though, allowing me to approach within a few yards before flying away.

The Brown-headed Nuthatch is so tiny and dull colored that it looks like a moving grease spot as it feeds on the station. It only remains on the tray long enough to dab its slender bill into the peanut butter several times or to take a piece of suet, but it makes many trips during the day. Before appearing it usually calls loudly from a nearby perch. Small as it is, the nuthatch does not seem to be afraid of any other bird. One time I saw it swoop down and knock a Titmouse completely off the tray with its feet.

After taking a picture of a Carolina Wren, I wanted to set the camera again without frightening the bird. I waited some time for it to depart, but the wren continued to eat vigorously. Even when I went to the camera, four feet away, the bird remained. The wren was so fond of peanut butter that I had to practically force it to leave.

It is not easy to forget the pictures that I failed to get. One day a flock of over a hundred Cedar Waxwings descended upon a nearby privet hedge for a feast of berries. Nothing could persuade a single bird to visit the feeding station. Another time three Mourning Doves and a flock of Slate-colored Juncos searched the ground thoroughly for every scattered seed, yet ignored the supply provided for them. When a Hermit Thrush was perched several feet away, a squirrel visited the station and frightened it. But I have learned to expect anything while photographing wildlife.

The photographs accompanying this article are the result of many hours of waiting for the right instant to trip the shutter, but the pleasure one receives recording and studying birds is worth every effort involved. For those interested in technical data, the pictures were made with a six-twenty folding kodak on fast panchromatic film and enlarged several times in the final prints. The apparatus used for releasing the shutter was simply a photoflash attachment wired for remote control.

## My Bird Friends

I wish you bird lovers could see a large native cedar tree in my back yard this last day of February. It is blue with berries and many kinds of birds are trying to gobble them up. I've counted over 150 Cedar Waxwings which make a beautiful picture with their silky plumage glistening in the sunlight. It seems they gather in groups when feeding. Then off to

one side are over a dozen Purple Finches. (Why called purple? They are more rosy red.) The Robins are getting their share, too, while the Mockingbirds are trying in vain to frighten them all away.

The feeder nearby is also a very popular place. It is visited daily by the Cardinals, Song Sparrows, Juncos, and the ever present English Sparrows. I notice the Brown Thrashers are all back, arriving on February 22nd, probably due to the mild winter. Last year I didn't see any Thrashers until the middle of March. They come to the feeder for bread crumbs, but prefer the refuge of a neighboring wild plum thicket.

At the back of the house we have a hedge of privet planted for a screen and wind-break. This has furnished much food for different birds that relished the purple berries all winter. It also makes a cool retreat for the birds during the summer, and, year after year, is a favorite nesting place for the Catbirds.

I find each different species has its own favorite nook. The Orchard Oriole swings her nest from a high bough in the persimmon tree. The Meadowlark sends forth his sweetest notes from the tip of a pine almost daily. The Goldfinches themselves look like golden flowers as they sway on the sunflowers I plant at the back of the border. The wrens sing their freedom song as they hide their nests in the most unexpected places. A pair built in an old army helmet I hid in a breath o' spring bush. The Bluebirds never wander very far from their box near an apple tree.

In 1948 I counted 37 nests within a radius of 200 feet from our home. This number did not include the Chimney Swifts, Purple Martins, and sparrows—nor the Bob-whites and Meadowlarks which I did not find though I knew they were near. The Bob-white and her brood came near the barn later.

I would like to suggest to all who are visited by our feathered friends that they never neglect protecting the birds, especially from their greatest enemy, the cat. I don't think it's fair to the birds to feed and attract them and then fail to offer protection.

Mrs. Olin Griffin, Fort Mill, S. C.

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## News of the Local Clubs

B. R. Chamberlain, "Critter Hill," Rt. 1, Matthews, N. C.

CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG AUDUBON CLUB: Mrs. George Potter, President (and Secretary of C.B.C.), led her team in putting on a successful show with Cleveland Grant on Feb. 19th. Grant's

pictures, especially in the gannet shots, are about the best we have seen. In spite of rain, enough tickets were sold to cover all expenses and still have a few dollars to spare. In place of the regular March meeting the Club took a field trip to Gaddy's Goose Pond at Ansonville, on March 13th. Above two thousand Canada Geese still present, one or two Snow Geese and eight Blue Geese. . . Here is an interesting quote from Harold Correll's letter on his trip with us to Bull's Island last December. Harold and Gabriel Cannon, both from Spartanburg, spent an extra night on the Island: "Gabe and I left Bulls Island at 7:30 Monday morning in a dense fog. We were out about thirty minutes and got completely lost. Mr. Mellinger anchored the boat and we sat there for about an hour and a half. Finally the fog lifted enough for us to get a line on the telephone poles and we got into the mainland about an hour before low tide, the boat scraping the bottom as we docked. We found Alex Sprunt and a party of seven waiting to get aboard."

GREENSBORO, PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: Highlight quotes from Mrs. Floyd Craft, President: "Trip to Beaufort, N. C., Feb. 11-13, led by Dr. Shaftesbury was a huge success. Session at Ye Olde Inlet Inn Friday evening. Speakers were Dr. H. J. Humm, resident Director of Duke Marine Laboratory, and Dr. Ben Royal, Morehead City physician. Visited home of C. R. Davant's in Morehead City Saturday morning. Boat trip from Harkers Island to Cape Lookout Saturday afternoon and more birding along the sound Sunday morning. Sixty-two species identified in the area." . . . The Piedmont club also heard Cleveland Grant and enjoyed him immensely. Mrs. Grant, vice-president in charge of the projector, made a big hit with the folks at Greensboro and Charlotte. . . . The C. L. Broleys, eagle experts, will show their pictures for the Piedmont Bird Club Friday evening, April 15. . . The spring count will be held April 30.

GREENVILLE (S. C.) BIRD CLUB: Miss May Puett, President. No word from the Greenville folks lately. My recent discovery of unanswered letters in November and December might have some connection with this. Sorry we completely overlooked a request for a film on Kinglets. However we probably won't know the answer to that one by next November. The club doesn't want for enthusiasm. For example: Quote, "—I am going to send you an item about a bird *breakfast* in the woods—."

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: An interesting letter from Miss Minnie Gwaltney should be quoted in full but we'll have to pick the high lights. President J. Weston Clinard had the program at the January meeting. He showed the thrush and robin film that many of us enjoyed seeing at

our C. B. C. meeting at Tryon last fall. Clinard also spoke before the Pioneer Garden Club, and the Lenoir Rotary Club. Miss Minnie Gwaltney had the program at the February meeting. Subject: Federal Wildlife Refuges. She writes: "I had all of my material before I went to Mattamuskeet, but seeing it first hand helped it come alive. The morning out on the Causeway will stay with me as long as I have a memory. The water so beautiful in the early morning light. The sight of the flock of swans resting—so white and so graceful—that was the outstanding part of the trip and worth the long ride." But for our intervention, Miss Minnie's enthusiasm would have taken her to the top of the Mattamuskeet tower.

RALEIGH BIRD CLUB: Dr. David L. Wray writes of the December meeting: "The meeting featured a colored film on water pollution entitled 'Clear Water,' presented by W. H. Riley, N. C. Dept. of Conservation and Development. This film was outstanding and enlightening in depicting what is actually happening to our once beautiful streams in the State, and what can be done by conservationists and nature lovers." Dr. Wray gave a short report on his recent trip to the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University and the U. S. National Museum where he studied besides insect collections, some of the birds. . . This from Harry Davis: "Mrs. R. L. Deaton, a member of the Executive Board of the Raleigh Club, and chairman of the Bird and Wild Flower Committee of the Raleigh Garden Club, had a program the second week in February which was attended by some 300 people, mainly Raleigh school children. Mrs. R. W. Green, of the Raleigh Bird Club gave an illustrated talk on birds and used the Audubon set of kodachromes that the Garden Club gave the State Museum last year."

SOUTHERN PINES BIRD CLUB: Glad to hear from the Southern Pines folks that their five acre bird sanctuary has been cleared of a jungle overgrowth that ran wild during the war years when labor was short. Now the "lovely wooded valley with a small brook running through it" must be attractive indeed, and we want to stop by for a peep at the next opportunity. . . . They plan to have C. L. Broley, of eagle banding fame, give them a talk this spring.

TRYON BIRD CLUB: Under the leadership of their new President, Mrs. Brintnall, the Tryon folks have added a popular program of bird walks for grammar school youngsters and for grown-ups. G. Hamilton Holmes, past President, who kept the Club alive for years writes from winter quarters in Florida: "She (Mrs. B.) should have been President all

along." Of himself and Mrs. H., he says they "have seen every species of heron and egret in Peterson recently, except Great White Heron."

WILMINGTON BIRD CLUB: A long letter from Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, President (Vice-President, C. B. C.), invites us down with this warmth: "I haven't had a good bird work out since I half killed Carl Buchheister. Think of the beauty of the early dawn." The Club "is working now on the assembly of a very comprehensive exhibit of the flora and fauna of the Cape Fear area which we hope to present to the public March 31st through April 3rd, as our part of the Azalea Festival. As we have a coastal club we will especially stress marine life and will have as many live exhibits as we can." . . . The spring count is planned for the week-end of April 16.

WINSTON-SALEM BIRD CLUB: Henry Magie, President of the Winston-Salem club, with his usual enthusiasm, has turned out a neat little booklet entitled "An Invitation to Boy Scout Bird Study." Excerpt: "Scouts, go into the big outdoors, woods, fields, stream valleys, city parks, make friends with your birds, note their song and calls, watch their flight. . . Nature placed your birds here for the balance between billions of insects that eat our growing crops and man's economy." . . . We are also indebted to H. M. for news of a "newly hatched" bird sanctuary at Rural Hall. This is the fifth for Forsyth County. We suspect that no other county can tie that. But then, no other county has a Henry Magie.

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## Columbia Natural History Society

Mrs. G. E. Charles, Columbia, S. C.

In the early 1940's, *The State*, Columbia, S. C., newspaper, was carrying two outdoors columns, one which had been conducted by Harry Hampton for several years, "Woods and Waters," and "Birds," a column just in its infancy, written by Mrs. G. E. Charles. Early in the year 1944, a young army sergeant, J. S. Y. Hoyt and his wife, both recent graduate students in ornithology at Cornell University, came to Fort Jackson and Columbia, and read some of a series of articles then being written in the column "Birds," dealing with the accomplishments of bird clubs in neighboring states and impressing upon the minds of Columbia people the need for a club here. Sergeant and Mrs. Hoyt offered their services and their equipment—a set of Cornell bird song records, thousands of feet of colored moving pictures, many Kodachrome slides, and also a three-year-old pet Pileated Woodpecker, apparently the only one in captivity. Before a meeting could be planned, Sergeant Hoyt received a transfer notice. However, the Hoyts remained here three weeks, and during this time through their influence a number of bird students who previously had known each other only by means of the mail, the telephone, and the printed page, stepped out of letter boxes,

telephone receivers, and newspaper columns to meet each other face to face and begin working together.

The first meeting was held with the Hoyts in mid-March 1944, and the first bird walk with 13 bird students, led by Sergeant and Mrs. Hoyt, was held on March 26th,

(Photograph by Charles Old, used through courtesy of South Carolina Magazine)

Officers of the Columbia (S. C.) Natural History Society: Gilbert J. Bristow, president; Mrs. Clyde Sisson, secretary; Harry R. E. Hampton, vice-president; Mrs. G. E. Charles, executive committee member-at-large; and Dr. Paul J. Philson, treasurer.

at Harry Hampton's broad acres of "Woodlands." Three years were to go by before an organization was formed. On the evening of January 28, 1947, E. B. Chamberlain and Alexander Sprunt, Jr., having long known of the Columbia group's dreams of an organization, came up from Charleston to offer their assistance, bringing along one of Alex Sprunt's bird movies. At this meeting, held in the auditorium of Columbia

High School, an organization was definitely decided upon and Gilbert J. Bristow, as acting chairman, named a nominating committee to report at a meeting to be held at the same place two weeks from that date.

Heretofore, the group had thought only of a bird club, or an ornithological society (to put it in more dignified terms), but Chamberlain and Sprunt suggested the idea of a natural history society on the grounds that more people would be interested in becoming members. Their suggestions met the approval of the majority, and on Feb. 11, 1947, the Columbia Natural History Society was duly organized, and officers elected. Monthly meetings were to be held.

According to the constitution, the purpose of the Columbia Natural History Society shall be to promote the study and conservation of wildlife and natural resources, and the society is endeavoring to live up to this by means of regular monthly meetings, each with some form of educational program on natural history subjects, as well as by keeping up the field trips begun in 1944, and also by continuing some projects started by individuals back in the years when each worked and studied alone.

The Society has about 50 members, and hopes to gain in numbers and interest as it presses on toward its several goals, one of which is a quarterly publication that will in time grow in volume of worthwhile data on the flora and fauna of the Columbia region of South Carolina.

## Field Notes and News

PINE SISKINS: I would like to report that I saw a flock of approximately 60 Pine Siskins near Winston-Salem, N. C., on Jan. 9. R. H. WITHERINGTON

ALBINO FOX SPARROW AT HENDERSON, N. C.: Mrs. G. E. Rose reported an albino Fox Sparrow feeding in her yard in January. She has had a good many Fox Sparrows, and on January 9th, with Miss Claudia Hunter, she reported seeing in the Rose yard about 40 Fox Sparrows. MRS. A. W. BACHMAN

ALBINO QUAIL TAKEN IN VANCE COUNTY, N. C.: According to Associated Press reports of Jan. 9, an albino Bob-white was taken near Williamsboro, Vance County, N. C., by Lloyd Daniel. The bird, which was later mounted, was white except for a brown streak along the back. Even the feet were a light shade.
J. W. CLINARD, Hickory, N. C.

CEDAR WAXWING TRAGEDY: On Christmas eve, 1948, I found in Sparrow's pasture at Chapel Hill, N. C., the still limp body of a Cedar Waxwing hanging from the main crotch of a shrub 3 feet high. The top of the head had been neatly removed and the brain was gone. Elsewhere the bird was intact. A Shrike's work? Perhaps. But Shrikes usually impale their victims. PHILLIPS RUSSELL

WHAT BIRD IS THAT?—For six weeks three birds have been visiting my feeding shelters. They are marked like sparrows and are about the size of most sparrows, but they look as if they have been dipped all over in rose colored dye. The heads are real rosy, as are also the two tufts of downy feathers where the tail feathers leave the

body on the back. The brown shows through the rose color elsewhere. I'm wondering! Feb. 5, 1949. Mrs. C. W. Kittrell, Tryon, N. C.

(How about Purple Finches?—Ed.)

SEVERAL HUNDREDS OF BLUEBIRDS—evidently in migration, came through Rutherford County, N. C., on Dec. 15, 1948.

Mrs. Albert Pike, Rutherfordton, N. C.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT AT HENDERSON, N. C., IN JANUARY: On January 18th, Mrs. A. J. Davis called me to see a yellow-breasted bird that she had seen for several days at her feeding station. The bird, a Yellow-breasted Chat, was missing most of its tail feathers, and I am convinced that was the reason for its being here in mid-January. Mrs. A. W. Bachman

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL: Nineteen members of the Piedmont Bird Club on a field trip to Ocracoke, on the outer banks of North Carolina, Aug. 27-29, 1948, listed a total of 53 bird species, and four of the observers who remained in the region until Sept. 1, added additional species to bring list above 60. Among the species observed were: Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Pectoral Sandpiper (L. Crawford, John Carr); Bonaparte's Gull (L. Crawford); Knot (Crawford, Carr); Cabot's Tern (Crawford, Carr). Perhaps the most interesting find was one Great Black-Backed Gull. Oscar H. Paris, Jr., Greensboro, N. C.

NOTES FROM GADDY'S GOOSE REFUGE: In November 1948, the Blue Goose which was banded at Lockhart Gaddy's refuge, near Ansonville, N. C., several years ago returned to spend the winter in North Carolina. (See picture on front cover.) This time she (or he?) brought two young Blue Geese in immature plumage. Late in the winter these were joined by two others.

On February 17th, a strange new goose alighted in the pond. This bird avoided the Canada Geese and worked its way over to the three Blue Geese which had been on the pond all winter. His head was somewhat grey and his body white, in reverse order from that of the Blue Geese. Lockhart Gaddy at first thought it might be a cross between a Blue Goose and a White-fronted Goose, but it was later discovered that this strange bird was an immature Snow Goose. Earlier in the winter, a White-fronted Goose remained at the pond for a time, but later disappeared, perhaps shot by hunters.

Mr. Gaddy estimated that between 4,000 and 4,500 Canada Geese wintered at the refuge. The Canada Geese were remarkably tame all winter, not hesitating to crowd up on land to get the corn tossed out by Mr. and Mrs. Gaddy. There was one period, however, when they were nervous and restless. That was just after the opening of the hunting season when hunters crept up as near as they dared to lay in wait for circling flocks. About 25 geese fell into the pond, dead or mortally wounded. For two days the survivors were afraid to settle down in the water. It was estimated that there were this year in the region of the Ansonville pond perhaps fifty times as many hunters as during the previous year.

About a dozen Canada Geese remained at the refuge all last summer. Two pair mated and raised young.

In mid-February five species of ducks were visible among the geese—Mallards, Black Ducks, Ring-necks, Pintails, and one lone bird resembling a Shoveller. He kept his bill nibbling in the water for hours at a time. On February 27th, the duck population also included a Red-head (drake), and two Green-winged Teal. Mr. Gaddy reported that a few days previously, he had had a visit from Jasper Miner, son of the

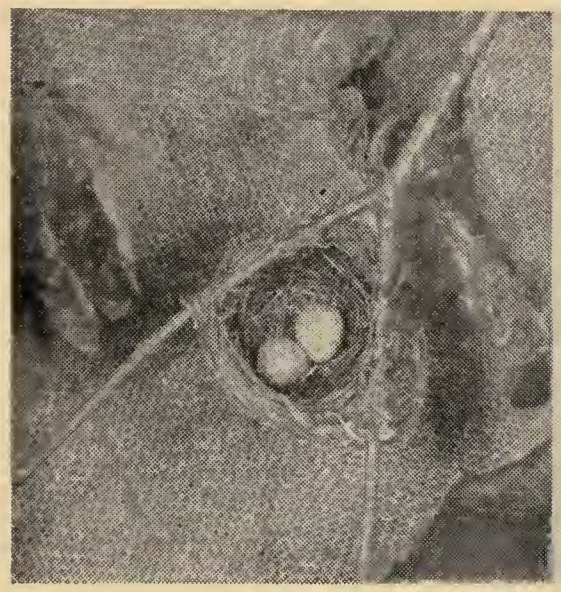
famous Canadian bander of Geese, and Joseph Heidenkamp, Jr., who has taken so many excellent colored moving pictures of birds.

PHILLIPS RUSSELL, Chapel Hill; A. D. SHAFTESBURY, Greensboro.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.: I am trying to get a group of younger people here started with birds. On Feb. 6, one of these people phoned that he had seen a Hooded Merganser on Silver Lake near here. I see no reason why he should not be correct, since Harold E. Correll and I saw, on Zimmerman Lake, on Jan. 9, a merganser which we identified as a female American Merganser, which was new to me here. In fact, before this year, I have no record of mergansers in Spartanburg.

GABRIEL A. CANNON

ANOTHER COWBIRD SEEN NESTING AT GREENSBORO, N. C.: On June 13, 1948, a young Cowbird was found at Greensboro in the nest of a Redstart in an oak tree about 18 feet from the ground. The nest contained one young Cowbird and



Cowbird Eggs in abandoned Nest of Red-eyed Vireo, Greensboro, N. C., June 13, 1948.

(Photographs by H. L. Medford, Sr.)

Young Cowbird in Redstart Nest, Greensboro, N. C., June 13, 1948.

one young Redstart. The young Redstart left the nest the following day and the Cowbird remained until the foster parents refused to feed it. An abandoned Red-eyed Vireo's nest containing two Cowbird eggs found at the same time is shown in the accompanying picture.

H. L. MEDFORD, SR.

BROWN PELICANS IN PAMLICO SOUND—apparently failed to nest during the summer of 1948. In early August 1947, after several newspaper accounts by Aycock Brown had mentioned nesting Brown Pelicans near Ocracoke, Bob Wolff and a party visited the region and found on Shell Island or Castle Rock, in the Sound near Ocracoke, nearly 30 nests, 14 of which were occupied. On August 6, 1948, in a chartered airplane from Beaufort, N. C., I examined the region, including the small shell islands just inside Ocracoke inlet, from an elevation of about 100 feet, and saw no evidence of nests old or new. On the outer shell island were about 200 Brown Pelicans, all adult. Later I received word from Wolff that he had visited the region in 1948,

from July 19th to 21st, this time accompanied by Brem Mayer, of Charlotte. Wolff estimated that they saw about 225 Brown Pelicans on Castle Rock, and perhaps 85 or 90 on neighboring small islands, which is nearly a hundred more than he saw there in August 1947. This time, however, he saw no nests; in fact all evidence of the 30 or more nests of the previous summer were entirely washed away. There were, however, many nesting Laughing Gulls, and some young Oyster Catchers. A. D. S.

GREENSBORO, N. C.: Two Black-throated Blue Warblers were observed Oct. 22, 1948, a late record. Pileated Woodpeckers are not common in Guilford County, the last one observed near Greensboro having been listed in the 1944 Christmas count. On October 10, 1948, I saw one in a dense swamp on Reedy Fork Creek. One and two, evidently a pair, have been seen in the same locality numerous times by various observers since then. Open stretches of water make this locality a good place also for ducks, and Mallards and Blacks have been seen there several times this winter.

Oscar H. Paris, Jr.

REGARDING INCLUSION OF "PEEP" IN CHRISTMAS LIST: One item in the January *Chat* which has caused quite a bit of comment by the members of the Wilmington club when they read the Charleston list (and noted) the inclusion of a "Peep" unidentified . . . A lot of people will still think of Charleston as having 133 species this year. You will note also in our count that we have avoided sub-species. However, on our next count they will be included. We have just begun to find out what we have in our area now and we are getting so that nothing we see surprises us.

John B. Funderburg, Wilmington, N. C.

DICKCISSEL (?) AT WILMINGTON, N. C.: What "we think" was a female Dickcissel was observed Dec. 1, on a fence post by Mrs. W. C. Mebane, Mrs. Warwick Baker, and myself. Mrs. Mebane stated: "This is the smallest Meadowlark I have ever seen." We began checking Peterson for Dickcissel: Yellow breast, but no black; line over eye, and streaks on head; showed light feathers in tail when it flew. It was not a Meadowlark. When we visited the area again, on Dec. 3rd, the owner of the place said that he had seen two Meadowlarks, a little larger than a sparrow, in a tree when he fed his chickens that morning. Mrs. Cecil Appleberry

SOME NORTH CAROLINA SUMMER RECORDS: A male Scarlet Tanager was observed, singing, in my back yard at Greensboro, July 10, 1948. A female Black-throated Green Warbler was seen on Rook's Wall, Hanging Rock State Park, Stokes County, N. C., at an elevation of 2200-2300 ft., June 15, 1948. During June, 1948, the following were observed at Hanging Rock State Park: 3 nests of Cedar Waxwings, high up (about 40 ft.) in pine trees; Parula Warblers at the crossroads near the park; Scarlet Tanagers, many, especially at the higher altitudes. In general, bird seemed to be somewhat scarce in the park, though Indigo Buntings, Prairie Warblers, and Towhees were very common.

William Hugh (Bill) Craft, Greensboro, N. C.

GREENSBORO, N. C.: Here is a check list for the afternoon of March 27, 1948, when I found large amounts and considerable variety of water birds on Lakes Brandt and Richland: Horned Grebe, 2; Pied-billed Grebe, 3; Baldpate, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 30; Lesser Scaup Duck, 900 (conservative estimate); Hooded Merganser, 18; Red-breasted Merganser, 44. There were two very large rafts of Scaup, one on each lake, and of nearly equal size, with each appearing to have a good 400 or 500 birds. The weather was cool and a strong wind was blowing. A wind and rain storm on the

evening and night before possibly caused them to put down here while en route to the north. I had the telescope with me and really enjoyed myself that afternoon, walking through the woods until close enough for excellent views of the mergansers and grebes.

OSCAR H. PARIS, JR.

CRAVEN COUNTY, N. C.: Perrin Gower, of Raleigh, and I spent a week last summer, June 28-July 5, at Great Lake, Craven County, N. C., and took several hundred feet of colored moving pictures including some good shots of Florida Cormorants, locally called "Nigger Geese"—there were about 35 nests with eggs and young, and some pictures of young Ospreys found in some of the six Osprey nests located on the eastern shore of Great Lake. Apparently Wood Ducks were nesting in the region, but we were unable to locate their nests. On Lake Ellis there were at least a dozen Purple Gallinules. An immature White Ibis was observed near sundown on Great Lake. It flew closely overhead and perched in a cypress tree a hundred yards or less away, and both of us observed it with 8x glasses. Several alligators were seen, also cotton mouths, one cane-brake rattler, and several raccoons.

DICK BORDEN, Goldsboro, N. C.

SALT MARSHES AS A HABITAT OF THE KING RAIL: *Birds of North Carolina* and other bird books in general use make no mention of the King Rail, *Rallus elegans elegans*, having been found in the salt marshes of North Carolina, which causes considerable confusion in this coastal area, when a rail conforming in size and coloration to a King Rail is seen in a salt marsh. On the basis of these much-used books, a person who is not too familiar with the various species of rails, immediately eliminates the King Rail, due to the fact that so much emphasis is placed on fresh and brackish marshes as the normal range of the King Rail. I have known for some years that the King Rail is not uncommon in salt marshes in this particular area and it is often killed there by hunters. One that was killed in Topsail Sound on October 14, 1947, was brought to me for identification. There is considerable evidence that tends to show that this rail might be found in salt marshes all along our coast. W. L. McAtee, in the Bureau of Biological Survey Leaflet BS-17, *Wildlife of the Atlantic Coast Salt Marshes*, p. 6, states, "The King Rail, while chiefly an inhabitant of fresh marshes, occasionally is seen in the salt." Claude McAllister has a specimen taken in the salt marsh of Masonboro Sound. This specimen has been positively identified as this species by Dr. D. L. Wray and H. T. Davis of Raleigh. I have one in my possession which was also taken at Masonboro Sound, and other individuals of this species have been seen in the same area recently. We have no record of this rail breeding in salt marshes, but we hope that in the future we will be able to find a nest and establish it as a salt marsh nesting bird also. Care must be taken in identifying this rail in a salt marsh, however, since the Wayne's Clapper Rail, *Rallus longirostris waynei*, a dark phase of the Clapper Rail also occurs in this habitat and could easily be mistaken for a small King Rail.

Wilmington, N. C., Jan. 21, 1949. JOHN B. FUNDERBURG

CARTERET COUNTY, N. C.: A male Hooded Merganser was seen July 3, 1948, near Beaufort. Two Song Sparrows, one a singing adult, the other, a short-tailed (immature?) specimen, perched nearby, on Core Banks, north of Drum Inlet, within sight of the ocean, July 7, 1948. A dozen Barn Swallows were seen June 14, 1948, near a bridge across a tidewater creek on U. S. Highway 70, between Beaufort and Atlantic, where they had been seen during June of the previous year; on another trip to this region, June 30, 1948, we counted at least 15 Barn Swallows flying near this bridge, and a look beneath the bridge showed 7 nests, four of which could be examined without too much difficulty. Two of these were empty, and the other two each con-

tained four eggs. A nest with four young Barn Swallows being fed was observed June 18, 1948, in a fisherman's shack on Shackleford Banks, opposite Beaufort. A trip to Bird Shoal, inside Beaufort Inlet, June 13, showed between 30 and 40 nests of Black Skimmers, and a similar number of nests of Common Terns. A visit to the same shoal two weeks later, June 29, showed about 40-50 nests of Black Skimmers with eggs and young, and a similar number of nests of Common Terns with eggs and young of various sizes, and also about 30-40 nests of Least Terns; 3 Gull-billed Terns were also seen, and a young tern, still unable to fly, was taken to be a Gull-billed Tern, from the behavior of the three mature Gull-billed Terns in diving vigorously at students whenever they approached this helpless young tern on the shore.

ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY

WINDOM, YANCEY COUNTY, N. C.: So far as I am able to ascertain, the only records of White-winged Crossbills in North Carolina are the observation of Bruner of three which he killed for identification on the campus of State College, Feb. 23, 1907 ("Birds of North Carolina"—Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley), and the observation of a female by Mack Silver and two of his grandsons here Feb. 5, 1943. They gave an accurate description. It could not have been any other variety of bird. I recall also, that about twenty years ago, Mr. Silver, his son, Paul, and I saw a Red Crossbill on the Ray boundary near here at an elevation of about 4,500 feet. It sat within twenty feet of us and seemed very gentle. I did not take a note at the time and cannot give an exact date. On July 13, 1948, we saw 2 American Egrets here (elevation about 2,700 ft.). On November 7, 1948, the Rev. Mr. Troy McCurry picked up an American Coot on top of Flat Top Mountain, Yancey County (elevation 3,500 ft.). I do not recall a record of one found at so great an altitude before. These surprises add greatly to our interest in the study of birds. We never know what to expect when we go afield.

Feb. 16, 1949. JAMES HUTCHINS

## With the Editor

BIRD GLASSES: The Micro Mart, 412 Tenth St., N. W., Washington 4, D. C., has received a shipment of Jap binoculars, of very excellent quality. Am not certain of the prices, but understand that the 6x30 glasses are $30 plus 20% tax, and the 7x50 are $40 plus tax. These are separate focus, and uncoated. They have perhaps 100 pairs with coated lenses, at slightly higher prices.

THE U. S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE—of the Department of the Interior, was established June 30, 1940, according to the President's Reorganization Plan III and by act of Congress approved June 4, 1940. The act consolidated the work of the Bureau of Fisheries, which, formerly of the Department of Commerce, had functioned for nearly 70 years, and the Bureau of Biological Survey which was established in the Department of Agriculture over 50 years ago.

*HOW TO KNOW THE BIRDS*, is the title of a new 144-page book by Roger Tory Peterson. It is published in two editions. The Houghton-Mifflin edition, at $2.00 a copy, is an attractive book with 400 line drawings, silhouettes, and four-color plates. The Mentor edition, at 35c, has a water-proof cover, and contains all the line drawings and silhouettes, but none of the colored plates. *How to Know the Birds* is in no sense a substitute for the various well-known field guides, but is a prelude or supplement to those books, valuable for the beginner and helpful to advanced bird students. Get them

at your bookstore, or if they have not stocked them yet, copies of either edition may be obtained, at the prices indicated, through the Service Department, National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.

MARTIN GOURDS: It is too late for this year, but for those who might be interested, Mrs. L. M. Wooten, Camilla, Georgia, has a good supply of martin gourds at 25c each, express collect. Joe Jones, Chapel Hill, N. C., and Dr. Wesley Taylor, Greensboro, N. C., have both received shipments of very satisfactory martin gourds from Mrs. Wooten.

WALLACE (N. C.) SHOOTS CROWS: Haven't heard how it turned out, but press reports carried notices of a Crow "Caw-Cus" slated to be held at Wallace, N. C., with prizes, including a shot gun, for the farmers killing the most Crows; prizes to farm women for the best recipes for cooking Crow; and prizes to men and women and boys and girls for the best scarecrow costumes in a parade to be held on January 25.

AUDUBON NATURE CAMPS for adult leaders are being held again this summer in Maine, Connecticut, Texas, and California. Each camper enrolls for a two-weeks session during the summer and actively participates in classes in the field under expert leadership. Numerous Carolina teachers and nature workers have attended the Audubon Nature camps during the past few years, and all are very enthusiastic about the camps and their work. For dates and general information drop a card or letter to: National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.

A LETTER FROM FORMER N. C. B. C. PRESIDENT, MRS. O. F. JENSEN: The Jensens left their Michigan home to spend the winter in Chicago, but are now back in the woods, and may be addressed at Maple City, Mich. A letter written from their home last fall—election day—contains many interesting things. Space doesn't permit inclusion of the entire letter, but here's some samples from it. "As for our cottage—we have put in two plate glass windows so that in spring and fall we wouldn't feel shut in. Lately what we see from our dining room table just in front of one of the big windows is so exciting that down came draperies, and I have painted a border above the windows so that we can get away with it. It really is thrilling to live on a flyway and for the past two weeks migration of Canada Geese has been at its peak here. Huge flocks of hundreds honking overhead—then many times in the late afternoon they will alight on Glen Lake. When the weather has been bad they have stayed over a day. Red-headed Mergansers were here but left about 2 weeks ago. The Loons, up to 24 in number, love one part of the lake. They came Oct. 5, and some are still here. Usually the Herring Gulls, one or two, are with them. As I am writing this, a flock of Canvasbacks just flew past, so low over the water, that one could just imagine it a projectile skimming along.

"Deer are here in great numbers. Lately several have been killed by autos on the main roads so you may know they are plentiful. Across the road we put a salt block, and you ought to see the groove that their tongues have worn, deep down almost through it. We have just planted 1600 evergreens. I intend to plant shrubs, vines, trees, etc., to attract birds—eventually to be a Bird Sanctuary, where I shall band. A feeding station is very busy now, mostly with Black-capped Chickadees and Downy Woodpeckers. We are hiring someone to take care of our large weather vane feeder all winter.

"So far I haven't gone with the Michigan State bird group. It sounds rugged to me. They go to Scout camps—take bedding, food, hike long distances—in fact we sound like a de luxe outfit in comparison. I shall never forget our Pea Island trip. Wasn't that marvelous."

## Official Announcement of Annual Meeting
## Do Not Fail to Read This at Once

### ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Date: Saturday and Sunday, May 21-22.

Place: The Lorraine Hotel, Lumberton, N. C.

Business Meeting: Called at 2:00 P.M., Saturday. Reports; Presentation of Papers; Election of officers.

Dinner Meeting: 7:00 P.M.—Principal speaker Hayden W. Olds, Chief of the Game Division of the North Carolina Fish and Wildlife Commission; Subject—"Game Birds of North Carolina."

Field Trips and Walks—are being arranged by the Lumberton Bird Club.

Hotel Rates: Single rooms, without bath, $2.25 and $2.50; Single rooms with bath, $3.50; Double rooms, without bath, $4.50; Double rooms with bath, $6.50 and $7.00.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Please make all room reservations with our Secretary, Mrs. George C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Road, Charlotte, N. C.

* * * * * *

## One Hundred New Members Needed

The Carolina Bird Club needs a hundred new members to keep up our record for membership gains. It is hoped that all of our members will cooperate in letting their friends know of the advantages of membership in the C. B. C., and encourage the growth and continued activities of the Club. Increased membership will make possible a larger, better illustrated *Chat,* and will aid in scholarships and other projects. *Will you help to get at least one new member?* Send fees, $1.00 for active membership, $5.00 for supporting membership, $25.00 for contributing membership, or $100.00 for life membership, to: Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Treasurer C. B. C., 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

Riverland Terrace,
Charleston 43, S. C.

## Local Clubs and Their Officers—North Carolina

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Harold B. Swope, Skyland; V-P— Dr. Leigh Robinson, Skyland; S-T—Mrs. W. H. Lashley, Royal Pines; Board of Governors —Dr. Graham Harden, Skyland; Miss Susan Sheppard, Skyland; Kenneth Carr, Skyland.

Asheville Bird Club: P—Mrs. Norman B. Beecher; S—Miss Margaret A. Allen, 208 Pearson Dr.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Carl H. Pegg; V-P—Harry Yeatman; S-T—Miss Frances Yocom, 700 Gimghoul; Field Chairman—Bill Hamnett.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—Mrs. George C. Potter, 2111 Malverne Rd.; V-P—Mrs. H. W. Kilpatrick; S—Mrs. B. D. Hendrix, 1615 Oaklawn; T—B. R. Chamberlain; Publicity Chmn.—Miss Clara Burt.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Mrs. Floyd H. Craft; V-P—R. D. Douglas and Mrs. H. L. Medford; Rec. S—Miss Charlotte Dawley; Cor. S—Miss Ethel McNairy; T—Miss Sarah Lesley; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Mrs. W. C. Carr and Miss Etta Schiffman.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Mrs. W. B. Daniel, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. W. B. Wester, Jr.; S-T—Mrs. Eric Flannagan.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. Alex F. Vallotton, 1415 Eighth Ave.; Reporter—J. W. Clinard.

High Point, Catesby Bird Club: P—James R. Mattocks; S—Mrs. Chester C. Haworth; T—Mrs. John C. Siceloff.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Fries Hall; V-P—S. B. Howard; S-T—Mrs. R. T. Greer, Box 800; Publicity Chm.—Miss Margaret Harper.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Mount Airy Bird Club: P—Mrs. J. Bruce Yokley; V-P—O. W. Kochtitsky; S—Mrs. H. G. Long; T—Fred Johnson.

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Columbia Natural History Society: P—Gilbert J. Bristow; V-P—Harry Hampton; T—Dr. Paul J. Philson; S—Mrs. Clyde Sisson; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Mrs. G. E. Charles.

Greenville Bird Club: P—Miss May W. Puett; V-P—P. M. Jennes; S-T—Miss Rosa Lee Hart.

# The Chat

## BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

MEADOWLARK

VOL. XIII MAY, 1949 No. 3

*Published by*

Carolina Bird Club

Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

# The Chat

BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*
Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

**Editorial Board:** Alexander Sprunt, Jr., The Crescent, Charleston 50, S. C.—Conservation, State and National; Dr. Richard L. Weaver, Box 1078, Chapel Hill, N. C.—Education; B. R. Chamberlain, R. 1, Matthews, N. C.—Local Club News.

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Cover Photo by Prof. A. A. Allen, Cornell University

# Spring Meeting Held at Lumberton, N. C.

The eleventh annual spring meeting of Carolina Bird Club, the first since the groups from both Carolinas merged, was held at Lumberton, N. C., on Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22, with the Lumberton Bird Club as hosts. The meeting was well attended by members from both Carolinas, over sixty registering for the meet, and over ninety attending the dinner meeting Saturday evening at the Lorraine Hotel. Thirty-two members went on the Sunday morning trip to the Lennon marsh area.

The meeting began with a business session held Saturday afternoon in the Lorraine Hotel, with president B. R. Chamberlain in charge. It was explained that the change in the place of the meeting, originally planned for Charleston, S. C., was due to the fact that three key members of the Charleston group were unable to take part. Reports from some officers and committee chairmen were presented, and officers were elected. Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, who has served as treasurer for the past several years, had asked to be relieved from her work, and Robert Overing, Rt. 4, Raleigh, was elected treasurer. A motion was carried providing for four members at large for the executive committee, instead of two, and Mrs. G. E. Charles,* Columbia, S. C., and Mrs. Wall were elected as the additional members of this committee. The other officers, who were reelected, include: president, B. R. Chamberlain, Rt. 1, Matthews, N. C.; vice-presidents, Robert L. Wolff, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Wilmington, N. C.; Alexander Sprunt, Jr. Charleston, S. C.; secretary, Mrs. George C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Rd., Charlotte 7, N. C.; editor of *The Chat*, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C., members at large of the executive committee, Harry T. Davis, Raleigh, N. C., and Dr. Richard L. Weaver, Raleigh.

B. R. Chamberlain
*Reelected President C. B. C.*

### *Charter of Incorporation Adopted*

An important action taken at this meeting was the approval of the charter of incorporation of Carolina Bird Club which was passed at an executive committee session held at Morrow Mountain, N. C., May 15, 1948. This move has been planned for some time, and now all that remains is the formality of signing the charter and presenting it, with the incorporation request and fee, to the North Carolina Secretary of State.

At the afternoon meeting, Dr. T. L. Quay, North Carolina State College, Raleigh, presented a paper, "The Mourning Dove in North Carolina." Quay told of work

*It was later found that Mrs. Charles would be unable to serve, and the executive committee has appointed Mrs. William H. Faver, Eastover, S. C., to be a member at large of the executive committee.

done and in progress, in North Carolina and over the United States on this bird, which is the only game bird breeding in all of the states.

B. R. Chamberlain exhibited several of the colored plates from the forthcoming volume, "South Carolina Bird Life," and suggested that members send in their orders at once in order to take advantage of the special pre-publication price.

*Summer Field Trips Discussed*

Field trips were discussed, Wilmington, N. C., and McClellanville, S. C., being mentioned as possibilities. It was suggested that the publication of the current issue of *The Chat* be delayed until definite field trip plans could be announced. (It now seems that a general field trip at this time is inadvisable. However, Mr. Rucker, Manager of the U. S. Wildlife Refuge which includes the Bulls Island Bay Area, states that early July will be a good time for observation of the nesting Royal Terns and other birds. He says that they can accommodate small groups, so if you are interested, write directly to him at McClellansville, S. C.)

Hayden W. Olds, chief of the game division of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Raleigh, was the principal speaker at the Saturday evening session, held after the dinner meeting in the Lorraine Hotel. His subject was "Game Birds of North Carolina," and his talk was illustrated with attractive colored slide pictures, maps, and charts, describing game birds, outlining the flyways of migratory waterfowl and the national waterfowl refuges, and discussing the effects of hunting and other factors influencing the number of game birds. Other speakers at the evening meeting included James L. Stephens, president of the Lumberton Bird Club, and Miss Margaret Watson, recipient of a Carolina Bird Club scholarship to the Maine Audubon camp last summer. Mr. Stephens told some interesting bird facts regarding the Lumberton region and briefed the group on the field trip to be held at Lennon's Marsh. Mr. Stephens welcomed the visitors to Lumberton, and Miss May Puett, president of the Greenville, S. C., Bird Club, gave the response. Miss Watson, who teaches at the North Carolina School for Blind, at Raleigh, described, with much enthusiasm, the two weeks which she spent at the National Audubon Society's nature camp on the sea coast at Medomac, Maine.

Early Sunday morning, and we do mean early, the group left for the trip to Lennon's Marsh, and then on to the Lumber River swamps below Boardman, N. C., for the trip by boats into Buzzard's Roost Rookery. Low water necessitated boat pushing, but in spite of the ruggedness, the trip was enjoyable and well worth while.

Much credit is due to James L. Stephens for his work in helping make the meeting so very successful, and to the following members of the local committees who were in charge of arrangements for various phases of the meeting: Miss Lillian Whiting and Mrs. Henry McKinnon, dinner; Ingram Hedgpeth, Dr. J. A. Martin, and James L. Stephens, Jr., publicity; Mrs. Mabel Hargrove, Ingram Hedgpeth, and Dr. W. W. Parker, welcome; Mrs. Graham McLean, Mrs. W. W. Parker, and Mrs. D. L. Whiting, decorations and favors; Mrs. Guy Townsend, Mrs. O. L. Henry, and Mrs. J. A. Martin, flowers; and Dr. W. W. Parker, who furnished sandwiches and drinks for the party who went on the trip to Lennon's Marsh.

The following registered at the meeting: Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Mrs. Key Scales, and Mrs. Nell Durham Lane, Wilmington, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Warren, Lenoir, N. C.; Mrs. Barrett Crook, and John Trott, New London, N. C.; J. Weston Clinard, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Warlick, Hickory, N. C.; Miss Gladys Hart, and Miss Rosalee Hart, Travelers Rest, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Coleman, George B. Rabb, and Thomas Uzzell, Charleston, S. C.; Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Miss Ethel McNairy, Mrs. Nina Tyner, Miss Margaret Warlick, and Mr. and Mrs. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro, N. C.; Miss Sarah Giddens, and Miss Lillian D. Wooten, Goldsboro, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. E. Joyner, Rocky Mount, N. C.; Mrs. W. B.

Simons, Mrs. George C. Potter, and Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Clarkson, Charlotte, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Chamberlain, Matthews, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hamnett, Chapel Hill, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Olds, Mrs. W. T. Martin, Miss Carolyn Lehman, Miss Margaret Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overing, Harry T. Davis, Mrs. H. H. Brimley, Miss Virginia Pickelle, and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh, N. C.; Mrs. Edith M. Sherrod, Mrs. Valette Harris, and Miss Genevieve P. Moore, High Point, N. C.; Mrs. Thomas F. Wilkinson, Cary, N. C.; Mrs. Paul Maudlin, Kannapolis, N. C.; Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Martin, Mrs. Henry McKinnon, Mrs. C. Guy Townsend, Mrs. C. D. Hargrove, Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Parker, Mrs. O. L. Henry, James L. Stephens, Jr., Mrs. Graham McLean, Mrs. D. L. Whiting, and Miss Lillian Whiting, Lumberton, N. C.

A.D.S.

### SALUTE TO LENNON'S MARSH

(May 24, 1949. Lumberton, N. C., CBC Field Trip: Low water over Lennon's Marsh made it necessary to drag or push the boats over a good part of the three miles to and from the heron breeding colony. Most of the birders went overboard and exercised muscles not called upon in some years.)

On Lennon's Marsh I prayed for rain;
The heavens gave no answer.
Now, 'long my spine, pain cries to pain,
And soggy are my pants, sir.

Yet I fared well on Lennon's Marsh,
Indeed I'll say I'm lucky.
No water came from heaven's arch;
She sent a Water Turkey.

—B. R. C.

## Condensed Report of C. B. C. Treasurer

Receipts March 6, 1948-April 30, 1949

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance, March 5, 1948 | $ 855.46 |
| Dues received March 6, 1948-April 30, 1949 | 1,075.90 |
| Registration fees, 1948 Annual Meeting | 65.00 |
| Refund, Mrs. Crockford from banquet | 3.05 |
| North Carolina State College, reprints from *The Chat* | 7.50 |
| Total Receipts | $2,006.91 |

Expenditures

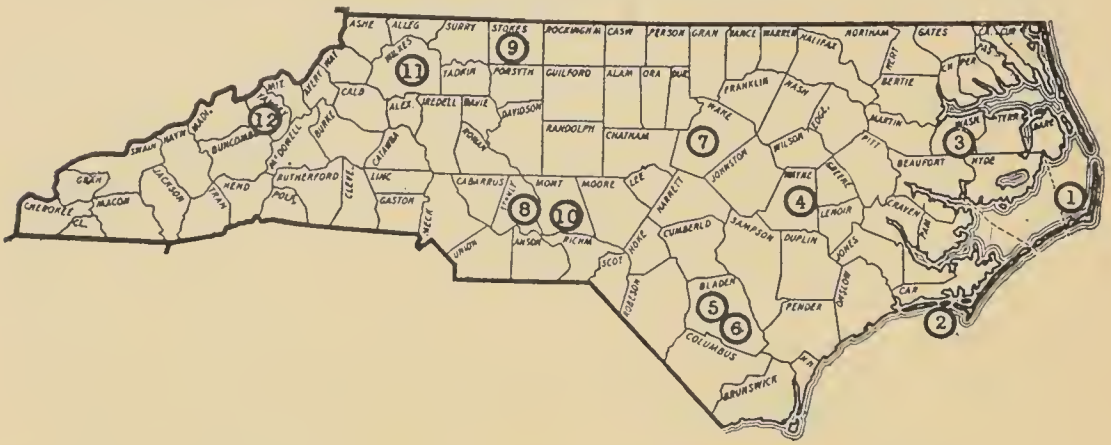
| | |
|---|---|
| Meetings, Chapel Hill, Tryon, Wilmington, Mattamuskeet | $ 163.02 |
| *The Chat*, printing, cuts, postage, supplies | 800.58 |
| Membership applications, cards, etc. | 35.70 |
| Stationery | 65.00 |
| Postage | 92.46 |
| Dues in National Audubon Society | 12.00 |
| Scholarship for Audubon Maine Camp 1948, Miss Margaret Watson | 100.00 |
| Bank charges | 2.08 |
| Difference in voucher No. 117, Feb. 1948 | .50 |
| Total Expenditures | $1,271.34 |
| Balance on hand April 30,1949 | 735.57 |

MARGARET Y. WALL, *Treasurer*

# North Carolina State Parks and State Recreational Areas

North Carolina's State Parks extending from Cape Hatteras and Fort Macon on the coast to the summit of Mount Mitchell, the highest mountain in eastern America, provide zest and variety for vacationists. The goal of the State Department of Conservation and Development, through its Division of State Parks, is to provide for the people of North Carolina opportunities for outdoor recreation in natural surroundings, and at the same time preserve and protect permanently the most important scenic, historic, and scientific sites in the State. Following is listed some information regarding these state parks and recreation areas. More extensive information may be secured by dropping a card with your request to: N. C. Dept. of Conservation and Development, Division of State Parks, Raleigh, N. C.

1. CAPE HATTERAS STATE PARK, in Dare County near Buxton. U. S. Highway No. 64 from Raleigh to Zebulon, then U. S. No. 264 to Wilson, Greenville, Washington, Belhaven, Scranton, Swan Quarter, Englehard. Take ferry to Hatteras. To Hatteras Park on sandy trail. Bird life is profuse; cabins (5); good fishing in sound, inlet, surf, and ocean. Inquire at nearby villages.




Approximate location of North Carolina State Park and Recreation Areas. NOTE: This map does not include the location of the newest State park, Hiwassee Lake State Park, in the extreme southwestern tip of North Carolina.

2. FORT MACON STATE PARK, in Carteret County across Bogue Sound from Beaufort and Morehead City. Take U. S. Highway No. 70 from Raleigh to Selma, Goldsboro, Kinston, New Bern, Morehead City. The historic old fort with its unique architecture has been restored and is open to the public. Nearby is Atlantic Beach. Present meager facilities will probably be enlarged this summer, and camp grounds will be provided with water and sewer systems for tent and trailer parking.

3. PETTIGREW STATE PARK, in Washington and Tyrrell Counties on Lake Phelps. Take U.S. 64 to Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Tarboro, Williamston, Jamesville, Roper, Creswell. Make inquiries here. Fishing in Lake Phelps. Inn, camp grounds, and boats for fishing are expected to be provided this summer.

4. CLIFFS OF THE NEUSE STATE PARK, in Wayne County, U.S. No. 70 from Raleigh to Selma and Goldsboro. At Goldsboro take State Highway No. 111. This intersects No. 55 about five miles from Seven Springs which is in the park area. Recently acquired and undeveloped; appropriation for development of parking and picnicing areas, recreation lodge, and other improvements will be available July 1.

5. JONES LAKE RECREATIONAL AREA, Bladen County, 4 miles northeast from Elizabethtown. To reach either No. 5 or No. 6, take State Highway No. 87

from Fayetteville to Elizabethtown. Exclusive for Negroes. Has modern bathhouse, bathing beach, boat house, and picnic and athletic facilities. Picnicking, boating and bathing facilities will be improved this summer, and tent camping grounds will be provided.

6. SINGLETARY LAKE GROUP CAMP—Bladen County, 12 miles northeast from Elizabethtown. Used for organized groups, it has picnicking, boating, and fishing facilities; swimming dock to be added this summer.

7. CRABTREE CREEK STATE PARK, in Wake County, midway between Durham and Raleigh. Coming from the East or West connect with U.S. Highway No. 64 to Raleigh. Has four group camps, three for white and one for Negro. Available also are picnic areas, bathhouse, lake swimming, and vacation cabins; additional facilities for picnicking, water, and toilets, and for swimming will be added this season.

8. MORROW MOUNTAIN STATE PARK, in Stanley County, seven miles northeast of Albemarle. From Raleigh take U.S. Highway No. 64 to Pittsboro and Asheboro, then State Highway No. 49 to New London and U.S. No. 52 to Albemarle. Has lodge, with restaurant, for lecture and other group meetings; facilities for swimming, picnicking, fishing, hiking, and nature study; camp grounds will be improved this summer; boats and boathouse will be added, and a recreation lodge is planned.

9. HANGING ROCK STATE PARK, in Stokes County, 30 miles north of Winston-Salem. Take U.S. No. 52 from Winston-Salem to Rural Hall, then State Highway No. 66 to Gap and Moore Springs. Inquire as to directions to the park area. Facilities for swimming, fishing, picnicking; camping facilities will be enlarged and improved this summer; boats and boathouse will be added, and a recreation lodge is planned.

10. TOWN CREEK INDIAN MOUND, Montgomery County. For organized archeological exploration.

11. RENDEZVOUS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK, Wilkes County, 15 miles northeast of North Wilkesboro. Take U.S. No. 421 to Winston-Salem, North Wilkesboro, Miller's Creek. Take State Highway No. 16 to the park. Historical; no facilities developed.

12. MT. MITCHELL STATE PARK—in Yancey County, 25 miles northeast from Asheville. U.S. Highway No. 158 from Winston-Salem to Mocksville. No. 64 to Statesville, Hickory, Morganton, Marion. About ten miles from Marion take State Highway No. 80 to Garden City and Busick. Truly "in the land of the sky"; hiking, nature study, picnicking, and limited rough camping; lookout tower on top of Mount Mitchell; an inn, picnic areas, and camp grounds are in the plans for this summer.

13. HIWASSEE LAKE STATE PARK, in Cherokee County, 22 miles west of Murphy, over U.S. Highway 64 and N. C. State Highway 294. Beautiful Hiwassee Lake, 22 miles long, in a setting of beautiful mountain land. Guest cabins, for from two to eight, equipped for light housekeeping, some for year round use, located in village area; other cabins without facilities for light housekeeping. For more details, prices, and cabin reservations write direct to: Park Superintendent, Hiwassee Lake State Park, Hiwassee Dam, N. C. A.D.S.

## My Visit to Bull's Island

Louis C. Fink, Rutherford, N. J.

The personality of Alexander Sprunt, Jr., dominated the Audubon Wildlife tour to Bull's Island, S. C., and that explains why it was so pleasant and such a good lesson in ornithology. From the moment you checked in at the St. John Hotel, Alex Sprunt was with you, in the form of a personal greeting saying he would meet

all the Tour members at eight-thirty the next morning. We were one of six lucky persons to make the trip in December, at a time when ducks and shore birds were performing in their best manner.

It was Mr. Sprunt's party all the way. He guided you to the station wagon, drove you over the causeway and high above the Santee River, and then unloaded you and all your possessions at the dock. He didn't drive the boat that wound its way through the mud-flats and beyond the Inland Waterway to Bull's Island, but he knew all the channels. And why not, since he has lived most of his life in the Charleston region.

It was this same genial orithologist who gave you your biggest bird-thrill of the trip: a ten-minute study of Wild Turkeys feeding in their native state, just as they must have been doing when those founding fathers first went out to look for game. Looking at those majestic birds, feeling at once akin to Audubon himself, you suddenly knew why the pamphlet writers became so excited when they wrote that here was a chance to know "America, My Country."

It was Mr. Sprunt, too, who resolved your doubts that maybe this tour was for the experts only. As you checked over your list around the fire-place at night, one of the other guests said with surprise, "Oh, this check-list doesn't have the birds in alphabetical order!" Alex Sprunt never batted an eye, but explained patiently that all bird-lists were arranged in order established by the A. O. U. And you learned a little about nomenclature while he talked.

Having witnessed your tour-leader's patience with novices, you didn't hesitate to ask him for your own pet request the next day. "Please, could we have a good look at a Florida Gallinule?" Mr. Sprunt labored hard and long; he saw many gallinules, but we got only fleeting glimpses. Finally, he turned up two for us. We caught them in the glasses, saw them swim, and then watched them clamber on the shore and walk about, as happily as any two chickens in a barn-yard at home.

Of course, his ability to scare up species constantly amazed you. A good stretch of grass produced the comment that here was a likely spot for jack-snipe. Two of the Wilson's Snipe flew over your head when the leader flushed them from the grass. "You'll like the Bald Eagles," he said, and we saw four altogether. One perched on a tree overhead, and the rest flew low just off-shore, so you saw your eagles at close range, instead of half a mile in the air.

On Bull's Island all of the guests were quartered in the house built originally by E. G. Dominick, a New York sportsman who maintained the island for years as a shooting preserve. The house was built in 1920; it is a thoroughly comfortable headquarters. It is the home of Mr. Waring Hills, of the Fish and Wildlife Service, his charming wife and their four children. Bull's Island belongs to the people now, for it is a part of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. It is an island of 5,134 acres, of which 2,100 acres are salt marsh, 1,500 acres woodland, and brackish ponds 685 acres. Roughly, Bull's Island is six miles long and two miles wide. Nearly eleven miles of passable roads, plus another mile of foot-paths, make all corners accessible. It rained the days you were there, and the temperature dropped to 40 degrees, but you kept so busy seeing new species and studying the old ones that you were never uncomfortable.

Most of all, you saw the ducks on those ponds built up with earthen dams. Wood Ducks, Mallards, Blacks, Gadwalls, Baldpates and Pintails—hundreds of them rose in clouds every time you tip-toed around a bend. Then you set up a spotting 'scope on the shore, and studied them to your heart's content. You saw the great bill of the Shoveller, the glossy white head of the Baldpate, the white spot of the Bufflehead, the Canvasbacks and Scaup side by side, the smallness of the teal so you could learn their comparative size, and a dozen others, brought up close where you could learn those elusive field marks and silhouettes.

Your taste for ducks partly satiated, you turned to the more familiar land birds. You heard, and then saw a Red-shouldered Hawk. You ran across a flock of fa-

miliar Cedar Waxwings. You found a Yellow-throat posing obligingly. You learned to know the omnipresent Myrtle Warbler at a glance, and then you switched to the Pileated Woodpeckers. You peered at the dusky sparrows, the Savannah, the Seaside and the Sharp-tailed. You didn't become an expert in two days, but the expert was there with you, never tiring of pointing out the distinctions.

It wasn't all birding on Bull's Island, either. The first day out, you saw the grand-daddy of alligators, a 14-foot giant still feeding lazily along the muddy shores. You saw a hundred deer-tracks in the hard mud, but you were a little too interested in birds to search for the white-tails. You saw the otter runs, and you watched the porpoises off shore. It shouldn't be mentioned, but you saw a cotton-mouth moccasin, too. And then you had a chance to learn at first-hand the fox squirrel, a new animal entirely for most of the observers. Nearly as big as a house-cat, black and long-tailed, it was hard to believe he belonged in the squirrel family at all. But there he was, scrambling among the palmettoes.

The 48 hours passed so quickly that you were in the government boat and heading for the mainland before you knew it. Every minute of sunlight had been used for birding. But the trip wasn't over yet. It was low-tide now, and the mud flats were exposed. Here was your first glimpse of an Oyster-catcher, with his red bill looking just as preposterous and unbelievable as it does in the books. Here were the gulls overhead, the most common Ring-billed, Herring, and Laughing Gull. Here in the air, too, were the Forster's and Royal Terns. But you had to keep your eye peeled for sights on those mud-flats, for the Dowitcher, the Clapper Rail, the Willets. The list went on and on, for you saw 96 distinct species before your two-day tour was done. As the boat drew near the landing, you looked back for a last glimpse of the ocean, for a farewell to the ducks, and the Sanderling, the eagles and those wild turkeys. That last spot in the air—were its V wings those of the Marsh Hawk?

Back into the car, for the drive to town. Alex Aprunt hadn't stopped looking. The car screeched to a stop on the Santee bridge, and he waved wildly. "Bonaparte's Gull! First one I've seen in Charleston this winter. There on the railing." And you had a close-up look of your last bird of the trip. "Mr. Sprunt, how can you distinguish a Bonaparte's Gull from a young Herring Gull?" And off went Alexander Sprunt, Jr., into a detailed explanation, his one thousandth of the Tour, but just as patient, just as informative, just as pleasant as the first one.

Here is the list of birds seen at Bull's Island, Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, South Carolina, on December 10th and 11th, 1945, including the birds on the mainland, and those observed on the mud-flats off shore: Horned Grebe, common; Pied-billed Grebe, 3; Brown Pelican, 1; Double-crested Cormorant, several individuals, plus 20 in one group; Great Blue Heron, 5 in one marsh, many single birds; Snowy Egret, 4; Louisiana Heron, 1; Little Blue Heron, both blue and white phases; Black-crowned Night Heron, 2; American Bittern, 1, first for the season; Mallard Duck, common; Black Ducks, abundant; Gadwall, common; Baldpate, common; Pintail, common; Green-winged Teal, abundant; Blue-winged Teal, abundant; Shoveller, common; Wood Duck, 10; Ring-necked Duck, common; Canvasback, common; Lesser Scaup, common; Buffle-head, common, only one drake seen; Ruddy Duck, common; Hooded Merganser, common; Red-breasted Merganser, common; Turkey Vulture, common; Black Vulture, common; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Bald Eagle, 4; Marsh Hawk, 6; Wild Turkey, 4, 2 observed for 3 minutes in glass at 50 yards; Clapper Rail, 1 on mud flats, heard others; Florida Gallinule, 4, good view of two leaving water and walking in grass; Coot, probably the most abundant bird; Oyster Catcher, excellent view of 4 on mud flats; Semipalmated Plover, common; Black-bellied Plover, common; Ruddy Turnstone, common; Wilson's Snipe, 3; Willet, 2; Greater Yellow-legs, 8; Red-backed Sandpiper, 3; Eastern Dowitcher, 1; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 1; Marbled Godwit, 1; Sander-

ling, 6; Herring Gull, common; Ring-bellied Gull, most abundant gull; Laughing Gull, 1; Bonaparte's Gull, 1, first seen at Charleston that winter; Forster's Tern, 1; Royal Tern, 1; Caspian Tern, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; (Hairy and Downy rare on the island, none seen this trip); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Phoebe, 3; Crow, common; Fish Crow, several, no attempt made to distinguish all crows seen; (absence of Chickadees and Titmice on island is noticeable; they do not cross over from mainland); House Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 5, heard others; Mockingbird, 3; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 1 flock of 20; Hermit Thrush, 3; Bluebird, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, abundant in mixed flocks with Ruby-crowned and Myrtle Warblers; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, abundant; Cedar Waxwing, flock of 20; Loggerhead Shrike, on mainland, none seen on island; Starling, 20; Myrtle Warbler, many flocks; Yellow-throated Warbler, 1; Pine Warbler, 1; Yellow-throat, one male in full plumage; Eastern Meadowlark, 2; Red-winged Blackbird, 10; Boat-tailed Grackle, 1; Purple Grackle, 2 flocks; Cardinal, 6; Red-eyed Towhee, 2; Savannah Sparrow, common in grasses; Sharp-tailed Sparrow, we accepted Alex Sprunt's identification; Seaside Sparrow, ditto, both are common; Vesper Sparrow, 2; Slate-colored Junco, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, common; Swamp Sparrow, abundant; Song Sparrow, abundant. Total, 96 species. Weather overcast for two days. Light rain first day. No rain second day, but temperature dropped to 40° F. Stiff southwest wind.

## Caution Urged in Outdoor Use of Insecticides

(Some time ago we received from a member in Tryon, N. C., a letter with this request: "Please inform me whether any study has been made of the effect upon bird life of the expanding use of DDT for the destruction of harmful insects." During January 1948 I received this inquiry: "Do you know if it is the various sprays for insects that is causing the scarcity of birds in Hendersonville?"

The use of DDT reduced mosquitos and black flies in some summer resort areas last year to such an extent that it increased the summer resort business by 25%, according to a survey by Charles L. Hughes, secretary of the automobile club of Utica, N. Y. However, to prevent widespread animal mortality, excessive use of some of the new insecticides must be avoided. We believe the following article sums up the situation very well.—A. D. S.)

"Reports of heavy mortality of birds, fish, frogs, crabs and other marine and fresh water life, allegedly as a result of insecticide dusts and sprays, has led the National Audubon Society to investigate the situation," John H. Baker, president, said today. His complete statement follows.

"Far too little attention has been paid to repeated warnings by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Agriculture on the danger of employing certain new insecticides in heavy concentrations in outdoor areas. With the expanding use of such poisons, increasingly serious damage can be expected unless great care is taken in dusting and spraying. These new insecticides include DDT, DDD, TEPP and chlorinated camphene.

"These toxic agents in heavy applications not only kill birds and fish, but lead to heavy destruction of bees and other insects valued by farmers and fruit-growers. Land fertility may also be affected. With the spring spraying season at hand, the problem is urgent. It concerns human welfare as well as wildlife.

"Surveys and experiments conducted by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife service have demonstrated how and in what concentrations DDT may safely be used. Other organics have not yet been fully tested. Some of them are more deadly than DDT to warm

blooded animals. Wildlife mortality has been cited by scores of observers after checking the results of local insecticide spraying and dusting. Such evidence confirms the hazards of drenching outdoor areas with the new insecticides.

*50% Bird Mortality from Insecticide*

"Among specific examples of destruction of wildlife was a reduction of 50% or more in the bird population in six days in a test plot in Texas, dusted with 4.36 pounds of DDT to the acre. A reduction of 65% took place in six days among common bird species in a Maryland woodland tract, following aerial treatment with a similar amount. Quail fed on diets containing low percentages of various new insecticides did not begin to succumb until the eighth day. Deaths continued among them up to the 34th day of the experiment.

"Heavy kills of fish and crabs occurred after aerial applications where as little as ½ pound of DDT to the acre of water was employed, the poison being fatal to aquatic life in much lower concentrations than to land animals.

"Where lighter woodland applications of DDT than 2 pounds per acre have been used, little or no animal mortality has apparently resulted. Even in such cases, however, the destruction of all types of insects by this toxic agent has occasionally been followed by aphid or mite outbreaks resulting from loss of natural control by other insects.

"A great deal more research is clearly needed to establish the value and limitations of organic insecticides, and their safe employment out of doors. There is no question but that certain crops have benefited by the proper use of these poisons, but every precaution should be taken in their application at this early stage of their development.

*Slow Action Fatal to Birds*

"The peril of the new insecticides to birds lies in the fact that these organic poisons act slowly. Some of them have residual, cumulative effects. Birds usually devour only living insects, but poisoned and poison-laden insects which have not yet succumbed can provide a fatal diet for adult birds and their young. A nest brought to the Audubon Society's offices contained four dead nestling robins, surrounded by dead carrion beetles which had in turn been poisoned.

"Adult birds may fly many miles from a sprayed area before they are seized by the convulsions which precede death from DDT. It should also be borne in mind that insectivorous birds avoid or abandon any territory in which insect life has been practically exterminated. This explains the disappearance of birds from many areas subjected to repeated heavy spraying. Practically all our land birds are insectivorous in the nesting season.

"The opinions of many qualified officials who have generously cooperated in our survey emphasize that rigorous measures should be taken by farmers, municipal authorities, golf-course officials and other private property owners to avoid damage from using excessive amounts of these poisons. The experience of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in treating many types of land should serve as a dependable guide to safe, effective concentrations for various purposes. Most important of its findings is the conclusion that such poisons should be used only when and where they are needed, and in the minimum quantities necessary to control the specific insect target.

*Concentrations for Use over Land and Water*

"With regard to DDT, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends the use of less than one-fifth pound per acre over water or marsh, in oil solution, not in dust, to avoid kills of fish, crabs and crayfish. Less than 2 pounds of DDT per acre should be used even in forest areas, to prevent death or injury to birds, frogs and mammals. On turf and lawns heavily infested by Japanese beetles, effective larva control can

only be carried out by concentrations as high as 20 or 25 pounds of actual DDT per acre. This can be expected to take a moderate to severe toll of bird life.

"DDT should be applied in early spring for early insects and not again until late July or August, after the bird-nesting period, to control late-appearing insects. The extreme sensitivity of fish and crabs to this poison makes its direct application inadvisable on streams, lakes and coastal bays where injury would be inflicted on commercial or sport fishing, and on ducks, shorebirds and other species which feed on aquatic animals.

"The National Audubon Society would welcome specific reports of insecticide experience from entomologists and other qualified individuals or organizations. Such observers should carefully determine the concentrations and amounts employed, as well as the specific mortality or reduction in bird or other animal population that may result in a given area."
(New York, N. Y., April, 1949.)

## News of the Local Clubs

GREENVILLE, S. C.: For the March meeting, the members of the Greenville Bird Club were the guests of Miss Nell Anderson and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Anderson, at their home in Travelers Rest March 27, at 6:45 a.m., at which time a delicious breakfast was served. Following the most enjoyable breakfast, the members went to the grove back of the house where many birds were seen and records made. Some of the members could not remain longer than about ten o'clock, but the others went to another area for some hours longer. At the close of the trip 36 different birds had been recorded, which was considered a fair count.

For the April meeting, another field trip was planned, the group arranging to meet at Travelers Rest at 6 a.m. and go into an area where there is a reservoir and a promising field for birds.

At the February meeting, Miss Mary Jenkinson, who is with the Greenville Public Library, joined the club. Mrs. E. C. Crumpton, who is also with the Public Library, was with us on the March field trip, and she expressed her desire to join the club and be with us at the April meeting.

It is expected that most of the meetings of the Club next fall will be field trips.

ATTENTION, LOCAL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES: Former issues of *The Chat* have carried notices regarding the federation with the local clubs in order to establish closer relations with the local groups and promote more efficiently coordinated work. If your local group is not cooperating in this plan, please see that it is presented to them. The plan went into effect on January 1st, 1948, and adjustment can be made for clubs that operate on a fiscal year rather than from January to January. A fee of 10c a member from the local club (minimum total $2.50) is to be sent to the treasurer of the C. B. C. Local clubs already having 100% membership in the C. B. C. are exempted from this 10c fee. All affiliating clubs should register with Robert Overing, Treasurer, C. B. C., Rt. 4, Raleigh, N. C., on or before February 15th of each year. Local units claiming exemption from the 10c fee are expected to submit a complete list of their paid-up members, on or before February 15th. Each affiliated club will be so designated and will be entitled to send a voting representative to one specified C. B. C. executive committee meeting each year, for the consideration of plans and policies. A copy of *The Chat* will be sent to the club library of each affiliated local group.

# Audubon Memoralized in Kentucky Museum and Park

A couple of summers ago, while visiting relatives in Kentucky, the two of us decided to make a brief visit to the John James Audubon Memorial Museum and State Park, located four miles north of Henderson, Kentucky, on U. S. 41 on the way to Evansville, Indiana, which is just across the Ohio River. Here in a section that is richly filled with Audubon lore, where that pioneer woodsman and naturalist lived and worked from 1810 to 1819, we found the museum, an attractive stone building of French Provincial architecture, with the most complete collection ever assembled of the

AUDUBON MEMORIAL MUSEUM BUILDING, AUDUBON STATE PARK, HENDERSON, KY. (MANY BIRDS USE THE TOWER NICHES FOR NESTING PLACES.)

works of Audubon, early American ornithologist and bird painter who is known to every ornithologist and bird lover the world over. And here we met Mrs. Grace Ferguson, attractive curator and director, who called our attention to some of the special items of the exhibit. Mrs. Ferguson was one of the leaders who were instrumental in securing W. P. A. and State funds for the erection, in 1938, of the museum and other park buildings, including a large tea house. Now there is an extensive system of vacation cabins, besides several miles of foot trails, numerous trailside shelters, and picnic and camping facilities scattered through the park area. Mrs. Ferguson has been successful in securing from various sources, by gift and loan, choice Audubon paintings, books, personal relics, and many other interesting items. A copy of the original great Elephant Folio is well cherished and guarded. One item of particular interest was the engraved metal plate from which was printed the famous Wild Turkey picture.

This brief note cannot give an idea of the attractiveness of the material in the Audubon Memorial Museum, but it is well worth a visit by any bird lover who happens to be in the region of Henderson, Kentucky.

CATHARINE and ARCHIE SHAFTESBURY

# Field Notes and News

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: First nest of Robins observed here this year—incubation started April 1; feeding by adults started April 15; young seen on ground April 28.

HENRY MAGIE

ARKANSAS KINGBIRD SEEN AT WILMINGTON, N. C.: Mrs. W. R. Baker and Cecil Appleberry reported seeing 1 Arkansas Kingbird at Wilmington on Dec. 27, 1948.

EDNA LANIER APPLEBERRY

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C.; Our club members saw and reported Blue-headed Vireos in several localities this year, around March 24. We also found Golden-winged Warblers on May 3, and Chestnut-sided Warblers on May 10. These are not seen here every year, though they may be common in nearby territory.

FLORENCE H. ROBINSON

FLODIDA GALLINULE TAKEN AT RALEIGH, N. C.: In the May 10 issue of the *Raleigh Daily Times* is the report of the capture by two boys near Raleigh of a bird which Frank B. Meacham, of the N. C. State Museum, identified as a Florida Gallinule. The bird was injured, which probably was why it could be captured by the boys and their dog. It was taken to the museum, where, we understand from Museum Director Harry Davis, it later died and was made into a mounted specimen.

A. D. S.

PURPLE MARTINS ARRIVED AT GREENSBORO, N. C.—at Justamere Farm, north of town, on March 5. Three arrived then, and by March 17, there were 6 arrivals. Most of my gourds are varnished, but I have a few painted with aluminium for comparison. A neighbor has a surprising variety of boxes, and even a 2 gallon oil can, which are being occupied by the martins. One of his nest containers is a small barrel with about a dozen holes. Several children, and lots of noise, but he states that the martins "come to the noisiest boxes first."

WESLEY TAYLOR

WILMINGTON, N. C.: Here are some of our winter records, to April 1. December 27, Prairie Warbler; January 4, European Widgeon, 2 seen later, seen daily through April 2; February 19, Purple Martins; February 22, White-eyed Vireo; February 26, Lark Sparrow, seen several times, last seen March 23; March 8, Bronzed Grackles, have been seen several times; March 9, Yellow-breasted Chat came to Mrs. Wagner's feeding tray, has been coming ever since (April 1); March 23, Painted Buntings, pair seen at Orton by K. Sprunt; also Yellow-throated, Prothonotary, and Parula Warblers; March 27, Eastern Kingbirds; March 28, Hooded Warbler, Crested Flycatcher; March 23, Red-eyed Vireo; March 29, Chimney Swifts.

EDNA LANIER APPLEBERRY, *Compiler*

SANDHILL CRANE (?) IN CRAVEN COUNTY, N. C.: In a trip with Dr. David Frey, Chapel Hill, N. C., and Gray Mattox, Smithfield, N. C., to Lake Ellis, Great Lake, and Little Lake, in Craven County, N. C., on Feb. 5, we saw several kinds of ducks, including a large number of Lesser Scaup—estimated at 1,200, but the trip was especially noted for an unusual observation at the southern end of Great Lake. Hearing a great racket in the brush about 50 yards from the shore, we flushed a very large bird with straight bill, long outstretched neck and legs. The bird flew croaking to a cypress just ahead of us, then flew again before we could approach for a clear view, but we again observed his outstretched neck and his croaking. We do not wish to positively identify the bird, but suspect a Sandhill Crane, and also suggest that other observers in North Carolina be alerted to the possibility. On returning to Chapel Hill, I read every life history I could find on the Sandhill Crane.

I knew that southern Georgia was its natural range, but was surprised to find that the birds build their nests in shallow water (1-2 feet), often in the midst of pickerel weed—which is very abundant in Lake Ellis. DICK BORDEN, Goldsboro, N. C.

(How about American Bittern?—A. D. S.)

FULVOUS TREE-DUCK AT SOUTHERN PINES, N. C.: On April 15, 1949, when Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Broley were in Southern Pines, we went to the Barber lakes area in Moore County to look for Bald Eagles that had been reported there. No eagles or nests were found, but there were two ducks on one of the lakes, which, after careful study, Mr. Broley identified as Fulvous Tree-ducks. I noted particularly their long necks and tawny coloring. I had seen similar birds before on another of the lakes, but could not identify them. On a trip to the lake a week later they were not to be seen. Our Southern Pines Bird Club has included the Fulvous Tree-duck in our records, though credit for identifying them goes to Mr. and Mrs. Broley.

MRS. FLORENCE H. ROBINSON

CONCERNING THE MARTINS ON THE ALBEMARLE SOUND BRIDGE: Aycock Brown, in his column, "Covering the Waterfront," in the May 17 issue of the *Greensboro* (N. C.) *Daily News*, has the following paragraph: "The martin colony which returns each spring to build nests in a rookery beneath the southern end of Albemarle Sound bridge arrived a few days ago. Their presence is noted by the dead birds that cannot fly fast enough to get from in front of automobiles passing over the bridge. The greatest mortality comes at night when the birds, disturbed, fly blindly in front of automobile headlights. . . . Only remedy for the situation as I see it would be for the state to erect signs advising motorists to slow down—that a bird rookery was up ahead. This may be a project for the Carolina Bird Club to look after cooperatively with the state highway commission."

SOME NOTES FROM BOULDER, COLORADO: (Mrs. David Olson, formerly a resident of Chapel Hill, N. C., and also formerly Secretary of the Carolina Bird Club—then North Carolina Bird Club, sends us some notes from her new home at Boulder, Colorado, and we thought that many of the readers of *The Chat* might be interested in reading them. Incidentally, Mrs. Olson came by airplane from Colorado, at the end of April, and spent a couple of weeks visiting friends in Chapel Hill and vicinity. She regretted missing the Lumberton meeting.)

We have a Boulder Bird Club of which I am Secretary-Treasurer. We arrange for a field trip each month and a club meeting each month. On Lake Valmont, whose water is kept warm, in fact never freezes, because of water inflow from the Public Service Electric plant, we have thousands of migrating ducks, mostly Mallards and Wood Ducks which stay here all winter feeding on seeds from corn and wheat in neighboring fields.

Birds which I have at my suet boxes on a tree near my window are: Steller's Jays, Chickadees, House Finches, Rocky Mountain Creeper, Red-shafted Flicker (male and female), Red-breasted Sapsucker, and Downy Woodpecker. At my feeding station on window sill: Chickadees, Steller's Jay, House Finches, Juncos and one Robin. On a ground feeding station kept free of snow and supplied with plenty of wild bird seed, millet, doughnuts, sunflower seeds, and wet biscuits, the following were listed in addition to some of the above mentioned: flocks of Bohemian Waxwing feeding on old apples; Black-headed, Red-backed, and Gray-headed Juncos; (Oregon, Pink-sided, White-winged). It is a beautiful sight to see 30 or 40 of these different Juncos all at one time at the feeding station, and flocks of Evening Grosbeaks. Peterson's "Guide to the Western Birds" and check lists made by the members of local bird club are my authorities for identification. Dr. Gordon Alexander, Head of Biology Department in the University of Colorado, gives two courses in ornithology each year. I have helped Mrs. Hough, who has a government permit, band birds, including Spotted

Towhee, juncos, and finches. Among her returns are a Steller's Jay found in New Mexico, and a Junco found in Alberta, Canada. I miss the Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Thrasher and thrushes of Chapel Hill. I also miss the bird trips of the Carolina Bird Club. There are trips here in the summer into the high mountains for bird study conducted by the University Biology Department. Greetings to the Carolina Club members. I have had some pleasure getting black and white and some Kodachrome pictures of birds here.

EDITH M. OLSON, 1740 Columbine Ave., Boulder, Colo.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE WINTERS AT GREENSBORO, N. C.: On January 23, Oscar H. Paris, Jr., reported the observation of a bird, undoubtedly a Baltimore Oriole, possibly a female, which he observed for about five minutes near his feeder at his home at 1101 North Eugene St., Greensboro. A week later, Miss Allene Mitchell, who lives in the next block, at 1005 North Eugene St., telephoned for me to come and see a bird which she and her sister, Miss Ida Mitchell, had observed at feeding stations at their home, and which they thought must be a Baltimore Oriole. The bird, apparently a first season male Baltimore Oriole, was observed feeding in that same locality every day for several weeks and was seen by myself, and by G. A. Smith, Miss Etta Schiffman, and various other members of C. B. C. Miss Allene Mitchell reported that it was last seen on April 20. A. D. S.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES AT CHAPEL HILL IN WINTER: A Baltimore Oriole was seen for several weeks during the past winter at the home of Mrs. Dan Hamilton, at Chapel Hill, N. C. We had three as regular visitors at our feeding station for four months. The first one came Dec. 27; a few days later we had two more. They were in winter plumage, of course, dull green with gray wings and heads, white wing-bars, and decidedly whitish-yellow bills. For weeks we were puzzled by them. Mrs. Richard Weaver, Mrs. Harold Walters, John Troot, and others *thought* they were Baltimore Orioles but wondered if they might be Western Tanagers. Luckily, we kept them around until they put on their summer plumage. After a whole day spent popping into and out of the bath, the male began to show bright orange spots, and before they left, on April 27, he was the sleek orange and black fellow we are familiar with in New York in the summer. The other two proved to be a female and an immature male. During their stay with us they ate only lard-and-flour balls from the basket outside our dining room window. Fortunately, the price of lard kept going down, so we were able to keep them well fed and contented. We hoped they liked us well enough to stop off with us next fall instead of going on to Central America.

MRS. R. B. SHARPE

THE MYSTERIOUS ORIOLE: Early on the morning of January thirtieth, during a pouring rain, a very wet and bedraggled bird appeared on our window feeder. She was evidently nearly starved, for she sat and ate steadily, only flying off to a nearby tree if we came right to the window in our efforts to find out what she looked like. She had a grayish green back, two white wing bars, and was a dingy white underneath. From the pictures in Peterson's, she appeared to be more like a female Bullock's Oriole than anything else. However, this did not seem possible since we are so far from the range of this western bird. She must be an immature female Baltimore Oriole! Though at this stage, she certainly did not look like one.

When the issue of *The Chat* containing the Christmas counts came, I read with interest of an Orchard Oriole having been listed in North Carolina. By this time, the bird had recovered from her period with little food, and had grown trim and very much at home on the feeder. She ate bread soaked in milk, and was very disappointed if the Cardinals and Pine Warblers had cleaned the saucer before she got her share. I had to watch closely, and be sure her food was out by 9 A.M., about noon, and then around 2 P.M. and 5 P.M. If the weather was cold and rainy, she would

stay on the feeder until nearly dark. Then she would drop down under the window into a large euonymous bush for the night.

On the morning of March 10th, I met Mrs. Clyde Sisson at the home of Mrs. W. Q. Claytor at Hopkins, S. C. (about fifteen miles from my home), and we watched on her feeder a mature male Baltimore Oriole. After having seen him, I was doubly sure that our female was a Baltimore. Sure enough, as the spring season advanced, her colors began to brighten, the dingy yellow turned into a lovely orange, and her grayish-green back developed into the mottled brown. Twice we saw her with straws in her bill, and I hoped maybe she would nest here. But we were too far south, and so she visited the feeder for the last time on the morning of April 24th. It was unusual and very interesting to have had her stay with us as long as she did, and we hope she will return next winter. The male left Mrs. Claytor's home about a week before our female. No, here is the letter giving the exact date, and it is April 14th.

Mrs. W. H. Faver, Eastover, S. C.

## With the Editor

ADDENDUM: With the article, "Notes on Birds Collected at Highlands, N. C.," by David W. Johnson and H. V. Autry, in the January 1949 issue of *The Chat*, it should have been mentioned that the work was carried out by means of grants from the Minnie D. Warren and Col. and Mrs. John S. Sewell Funds from the Highlands Biological Laboratory, Highlands, N. C.

BIOGRAPHY OF H. H. BRIMLEY SOON TO BE PUBLISHED: From Mrs. H. H. Brimley we learn that the work is progressing on the biography of H. H. Brimley, which is being written by Dr. Eugene Odum, of the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., is progressing well, and the volume, which is being printed by the University of North Carolina press, is expected to appear before long, possibly before the end of this year.

RAMSEUR MADE BIRD SANCTUARY: From the April 24th issue of the *Greensboro Daily News*, we learn that, through the efforts of the Ramseur Garden Club, the mayor, R. G. Henley, has issued a proclamation declaring the town of Ramseur a bird sanctuary. The Ramseur Garden Club sponsored Junior Audubon Clubs in the schools and a bird house contest, which had 117 bird houses entered. Scrapbooks and posters were made by the school children. Climaxing the school contest, Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Graham entertained the teachers and their husbands with an afternoon of fishing and a dinner at the cabin on their Cedar Breeze Farm.

GREENSBORO STILL LEADS: Greensboro, N. C., which has for some time had the largest number of Carolina Bird Club members of any of the local groups, still holds first place with 61 members in the C. B. C., maintaining a sizeable lead over second and third places held respectively by Raleigh, with 41 members, and Charlotte which has 40 members in the C. B. C. Following is a list of the other localities having more than twenty members in C. B. C.: Chapel Hill, 28; Henderson, 25; Tryon, 24; Winston-Salem, 23; and Charleston, S. C., Lenoir, N. C., and Lumberton, N. C. with 21 C. B. C. members each. C. B. C. members are distributed in twenty-two states and the District of Columbia.

A LETTER TO ROBERT L. WOLFF, VICE-PRESIDENT, C.B.C.: "Dear Bob: I want you to know that if, at any time, we can be of service to the Carolina Bird Club in its fine work, we are very anxious to do so. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission meets periodically for the purpose of considering various matters which will be helpful in the formulation and execution of North Carolina's

Wildlife conservation program. I feel that folks like you, and members of your fine organization, can make valuable suggestions to us in our work. I therefore extend to you, and to others of the Carolina Bird Club, a cordial invitation to attend our meetings and offer any advice and information you may consider helpful in conserving and restoring birds and animals to the depleted coverts of our State."—CLYDE P. PATTON, Executive Director North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

A LETTER FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY: "As a member of the Carolina Bird Club, I very much enjoy *The Chat*. It keeps me in touch with the activities of your many member clubs and constantly recalls the pleasant visits I have had with some of them during the past few years. The purpose of my writing is to express the gratitude of the National Audubon Society to the Carolina Bird Club and to you, its Editor, for the fine announcement of our Audubon Nature Camps, on page 36 of the March issue of *The Chat*. This kind of co-operation between our organizations, which share a mutual purpose, is much appreciated. We know that it will help in promoting enrollments from North and South Carolina. . . . We are delighted that your Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Wall, will again assist in our Maine Camp as instructor in nature activities."

CARL W. BUCHHEISTER

THANKS FROM W. G. TEMPLETON: I would like to make public acknowledgement in your fine *Chat* magazine, to Mrs. Susas J. Allen, Milford, Delaware, for the fine contribution of wearing apparel she made to the Maurice Stimson Bird Sanctuary fund. It would thrill you to sit in the center of the Maurice Bird Haven, situated on Rt. 2, about 7 miles above Taylorsville, N. C., and watch the birds he has so generously provided for, with the help of a few people like Mrs. Allen. Maurice says he can dispose of more men's wearing apparel than women's. If you have any old usable wearing things send them to Maurice Stimson, Rt. 2, Taylorsville, N. C.

Maurice has a more intimate knowledge of birds than any one I have ever met in my 48 years covering all the 48 states as a salesman. He can thrill you with the experiences he has had with the birds of both varieties, those with feathers and those without. The Maurice Bird Haven is a natural and one can see many varieties of birds without moving from his seat. Mrs. Allen should see the bird boxes and half an acre of sunflowers already planted, all provided by her box.

W. G. TEMPLETON, Statesville, N. C.

MRS. HENRY PIKE PASSES: The death of Mrs. Henry R. (Martha) Pike, of Siler City, N. C., which occurred during the latter part of March, ended a long fruitful career of interest in bird sanctuaries and protection of song birds. As chairman of the bird committee of the Siler City Garden Club, she was instrumental in having the town made a bird sanctuary in 1937—the third such municipal sanctuary in the South. She was active in organizing nearly 60 Junior Audubon Societies among the school children of North Carolina, and through these clubs and adult groups developed many attractive projects. Mrs. Pike was long a member of the Carolina Bird Club, and was active in the work of the Garden Club of North Carolina. At the time of her death she was bird chairman of the Garden Club of North Carolina, and had set in operation an extensive plan for the year's work of the Bird Department of the Carolina Garden Club. These plans were listed in the Winter 1948-49 issue of *The North Carolina Gardener*, in which Mrs. Pike concluded her report with these verses from Coleridge:

"He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us
He made and loveth all."

## The President's Message

At our Annual Meeting at Lumberton, approval was given your officers to carry on for another year. So, through confidence, or apathy, you have essentially the same leaders you had last year.

Our big field trip is half over. We have stumbled into a hole or two and we have been hung up on barbed wire here and there, but we've picked up some records and we've encountered no unfriendly snakes. Now, we know our way home and we know what to look for to make a big count. —So much for the Executive Committee.

As for the mere members, you are 98.4 percent of the total. *If the accomplishments of CBC fall short of your expectations it may be that your sole contribution is expecting.* It's your Club, birders!

B. R. CHAMBERLAIN

Critter Hill, Matthews, N. C. May 25, 1949

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NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: Owing to the election of former membership chairman Robert Overing to be treasurer of Carolina Bird Club, president B. R. Chamberlain has appointed Dr. T. L. Quay, Zoology Department, N. C. State College, Raleigh, N. C., as the new membership chairman.

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CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Organized March 6, 1937, for the study and protection of our birds. Membership is open to those interested in this work, and is divided into four classes: Active members who pay dues of $1.00 a year; Sustaining members, dues of $5.00 a year; Contributing members, dues of $25.00 a year; and Life members, $100.00, which may be paid at one time or in four consecutive annual payments of $25.00.

Nominations and applications for membership should be sent to: Robert Overing, Treasurer C. B. C., Rt. 4, Raleigh, N. C.

Box 271,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

## Local Clubs and Their Officers—North Carolina

Asheville Bird Club: P—Mrs. Norman B. Beecher; S—Miss Margaret A. Allen, 208 Pearson Dr.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Carl H. Pegg; V-P—Harry Yeatman; S-T—Miss Frances Yocom, 700 Ginghoul; Field Chairman—Bill Hamnett.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—Mrs. George C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Rd.; V-P—Mrs. H. W. Kilpatrick; S—Mrs. B. D. Hendrix, 1615 Oaklawn; T—B. R. Chamberlain; Publicity Chmn.—Miss Clara Burt.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Mrs. H. L. Medford, 830 Cornwallis Rd.; V-P—Dr. Charlotte Dawley and S. A. McFalls; Cor. S—Mrs. Franklin H. McNutt, Rt. 1, Box 333, McLeansville; Rec. S—Mrs. W. A. Hill; T—Mrs. E. J. Fillinger; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Mrs. Floyd H. Craft and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Mrs. W. B. Daniel, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. W. B. Wester, Jr.; S-T—Mrs. Eric Flannagan.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. Alex F. Vallotton, 1415 Eighth Ave.; Reporter—J. W. Clinard.

High Point, Catesby Bird Club: P—James R. Mattocks; S—Mrs. Chester C. Haworth; T—Mrs. John C. Siceloff.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Fries Hall; V-P—S. B. Howard; S-T—Mrs. R. T. Greer, Box 800; Publicity Chm.—Miss Margaret Harper.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Frank B. Meacham; V-P—Mrs. J. M. Jenrette; S—David L. Wray, N. C. Dept. Agr.; Ex. Com.—Officers and Robert Overing and Mrs. R. L. Deaton.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. D. L. Wheeler; V-P—Miss Clara Hearne; S-T—Mrs. T. L. O'Briant, 538 Vance St.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—The Rev. Gray Temple; S—Miss Dorothy Craighill; T—Miss Lilly Shearin; Members of Executive Committee—Mrs. Fairy Bandy and Mrs. J. W. E. Joyner.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Robinson; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes, Box 660; T—Miss Norma Shiring; Rec. S—Mrs. Lloyd Prime.

Tryon Bird Club: P—Mrs. Arthur W. Brintnall; S-T—Mrs. Thomas Clark; Publicity Chm.—Mrs. H. Lan Moore.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—John B. Funderburg, 1211 South Fourth St.; V-P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry; T—Charles F.Theobald; S—Mrs. C. D. Maffitt, 219 South Fifth St.; Directors—Mrs. W. C. Mebane, Mrs. W. R. Baker, Mrs. N. E. Everson.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

## Local Clubs and Their Officers—South Carolina

Charleston Natural History Society: P—Malcolm L. McCrae; V-P—Capt. I. S. H. Metcalf; S—E. Burnham Chamberlain, The Charleston Museum, Charleston 16, T—Mrs. Louise Barrington.

Columbia Natural History Society: P—Gilbert J. Bristow; V-P—Harry Hampton; T—Dr. Paul J. Philson; S. Mrs. Clyde Sisson; Ex. Com. Officers and Mrs. G. E. Charles.

Greenville Bird Club: P—Miss May W. Puett; V-P—P. M. Jennes; S-T—Miss Rosa Lee Hart.

# The Chat

## BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias herodias*, L.

VOL. XIII SEPTEMBER, 1949 No. 4

*Published by*

Carolina Bird Club

Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

# The Chat

BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*
Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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Cover Photo by B. R. Chamberlain

# Carolina Bird Club Gets Charter

Certificate Number 61402 was granted by the office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina to our incorporators on August 8, 1949. Thus, by a few strokes of the pen (plus a fee) we are offcially CAROLINA BIRD CLUB, INCORPORATED, with privileges and duties as therein set forth. It was just as simple as that, so far as the final acts were concerned. The preliminaries were more involved.

The minutes of the Tenth Annual Meeting of N.C.B.C., held at Atlantic Beach, N. C., on the first week-end of May, 1947, record the acceptance by the membership of a proposal to incorporate. Mrs. O. F. Jensen, re-elected President on that occasion, named a Charter Committee, consisting of R. D. Douglas, Chairman, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, and B. R. Chamberlain, with power to act. However, in spite of the prompt work of Mr. Douglas in drawing up the legal papers, an important matter was to hold up further action at that time. That was the question of merging with the South Carolina groups. That was taken care of at the annual meeting at Chapel Hill, N. C., in March, 1948, and the Committee soon found itself with a new President and a new name under which to seek incorporation.

On May 15, 1948, the Executive Committee met at Morrow Mountain (N. C.) State Park and formulated certain changes in the original version of the Charter that seemed to be required to meet the needs of Carolina Bird Club. Finally, at the Twelfth Annual Meeting held at Lumberton, N. C., May 21st, 1949, a vote of the members accepted the wording and we were practically incorporated—except for the mere matter of getting legal sanction for the new version and some notarized signatures of the incorporators. For the legal part, Hunter Marshal, Charlotte, North Carolina, attorney, and long a member of the Club, generously donated his time to draw up the revised instrument, as Mr. Douglas had done for the original. Then, on June 20th, 1949, the papers were mailed out for signatures.

Although only three incorporators are required by law, it seemed desirable to have a greater number participate in the case of our Charter. The accompanying cut shows the signatures of the signers. Each had to sign before a Notary Public. That would have been fairly easy but for the summer migration of our birders. One was at Medomac, Maine. One was at Kerrville, Texas, and one entirely out of this country in Mexico City. Others had wandered within the borders of the Carolinas. They were spread from Beaufort, N. C., to Tryon, N. C., and from Raleigh, N. C., to Charleston, S. C. In several places the signers were inconvenienced. In Mexico City there were difficulties. Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green was the signer there. Unfortunately space is too limited to quote her comments

here. Between the United States Embassy and the Mexican siesta a weaker person might have given up.

To reduce the danger of loss in the mail, each signer, with one exception, was asked to return the papers to Charlotte. When Robert Overing, our Treasurer, presented the Charter at the office of the Secretary of State, the document had traveled approximately seven thousand eight hundred miles in a period of about five weeks. This is doubtless a new high for Charters. (August 28, 1949.) B. R. C.

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## CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
*of*
## CAROLINA BIRD CLUB, INC.

This is to certify that we, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves into a corporation under and by virtue of the laws of the State of North Carolina for such purpose made and provided, and do severally agree to become members thereof; and to that end do hereby execute this certificate of incorporation in manner and form as follows:

### I. NAME

The name of this corporation is "Carolina Bird Club, Inc."

### II. LOCATION

The location of the principal office of the corporation is in the city of Raleigh, County of Wake, in the State of North Carolina.

### III. OBJECTS

The objects for which this corporation is formed are:

(a) The study of birds and the education of the people of North and South Carolina as to the value of birds.

(b) The promotion and establishment of local bird clubs in the several sections of the two States.

(c) The publication and dissemination of a periodic magazine.

(d) Cooperation with State and Federal Authorities in bringing about better enforcement of all existing laws for the protection of wildlife.

(e) To do and perform such matters and things as are allowed by law and may be reasonably convenient or necessary to attain the objects and ends for which it was organized as hereinabove set forth.

### IV. MEMBERSHIP

This corporation shall have no capital stock. Participation in its affairs shall be by membership therein, subject to the following rules and regulations:

(a) By-laws governing the admission of members, the amount of initiation fees and periodic dues, the rules and regulations to be observed, the qualifications for voting, the resignation or expulsion of members, the election, powers and duties of officers and of a general governing body, and all other matters and things usually and legally contained in corporate by-laws may from time to time be adopted, amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members who are entitled to vote and are present either personally or by legal proxy at any meeting of the members.

(b) At all meetings of the membership, each member entitled to vote under the by-laws then existing may cast one vote either in person or by proxy; but no person may cast a vote as proxy of another who is not then a member of the corporation and entitled to vote at such meeting in his or her own name.

(c) Any funds belonging to the corporation may by the general governing body

of the corporation be used for any of the objects for which the corporation is formed; but no dividends shall ever be declared or paid to the members.

(d) No member who has died, resigned or been expelled shall thereafter have any interest in or claim upon the property or assets of the corporation.

V. MEMBERS

The names and postoffice addresses of the members who are the incorporators hereof are as follows:

VI. PERIOD OF DURATION

The period of duration of this corporation shall be unlimited.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we the said incorporators have hereto set our hands and seals.

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

## News of the Local Clubs

B. R. Chamberlain, "Critter Hill," Rt. 1, Matthews, N. C.

LUMBERTON BIRD CLUB has booked Charles Broley for the evening of November 22nd.

COLUMBIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY is planning a good representation at the fall meeting at Fontana. Some of the members have been active in getting Audubon Screen Tours at Columbia this winter. The Tours are sponsored by the city schools.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB began its autumn activities with a meeting held on September 16th at Guilford Dairy clubhouse, which included a supper, reports of summer trips and observations of members, and a general social evening. A field trip is planned for Sunday, October 29th, to Hanging Rock State Park in Stokes County, N. C. The Annual Christmas dinner meeting will be held on Thursday evening, December 8th, at Starmount Country Club, Greensboro, N. C.

TAR HEEL BIRD CLUB met at Morrow Mountain, in Stanly County, N. C., on the week-end of August 6th. The Club is not officially affiliated with C.B.C. but it is hoped that it will be since they already have one hundred per cent membership in C.B.C. The writer was delighted to receive and accept an invitation to the Morrow Mountain meeting. This group of birders, headed by Rufus Page, have certainly learned the art of enjoying themselves outdoors. Nor do the members shirk the more serious side. Each month each member must send the Secretary a check list of birds seen during the preceding month. Each month an informative newsletter is sent to the membership. The editorship changes monthly.

MECKLENBURG AUDUBON CLUB is starting an active winter season with the appearance of Charles Broley of eagle banding fame. Mr. and Mrs. Broley will be in Charlotte on the evening of November 19th. Birders in the vicinity will do well to plan to hear Mr. Broley. He has really gone in for the he-man side of bird study.

The City of Charlotte has added officially to the growing list of Bird Sanctuaries. The City Council has taken action and the North Carolina Highway Department has placed road signs at all highways leading into the city. Mrs. George Potter, President of Mecklenburg Audubon Club, has been largely responsible for this action. An attempt was made to have

the Highway Department use posts tall enough to carry bird houses, and thereby give the sanctuary signs real meaning. However, approval could not be secured for that and the Club resorted to placing separate posts with bird houses near the sanctuary signs. One such installation has been completed, thanks to the Boy Scouts, and the others will follow this fall.

## TAR HEEL BIRD CLUB

On June 18, 1948, a brand new bird club was "hatched out" at Crabtree Creek Training Camp, near Raleigh, N. C. The fledgling club, composed of ten members, was an outgrowth of early morning bird walks led by Rufus Page, staff member at Camp, naturalist, forester, and withal, the only member of the group with any ornithological experience. What the group lacked in training, they made up in enthusiasm; and far more noticeable in their semi-annual meetings than scientific terminology is a remarkable *esprit de corps*. Premier requirement for membership in this organization is love of people as well as love of birds!

By common consent limited to eighteen active members, the group grew to sixteen in the first year. Participants hail from Jacksonville, N. C., on the Atlantic coast, to Lake Lure, high in the mountains; and they range from college freshmen to dignified state officials. Hickory claims four; Morganton four; Kannapolis, Elizabethtown, and Raleigh, two each; with one from each of the distant points aforementioned.

Until the August, 1949, meeting at Morrow Mountain, the club was known as the "Rufus Bird Club"—a tribute which all members insisted on paying to their highly-regarded organizer and president, Mr. Page. At his earnest request, the name was changed to "Tarheel Bird Club." Requirements for membership are not too stringent, since bird identification is the main item of interest to all participants. In brief, requirements are: (1) A monthly check-list mailed to the secretary; (2) erection of feeding stations and bird houses at appropriate seasons; (3) participation in some part of each meeting, and in Christmas bird census, if possible. Two regular meetings have thus far been held, the first in October of 1948, at Fletcher, N. C.; the second at Morrow Mountain, near Albemarle; a third is planned for Singletary Lake, near Elizabethtown, on the week-end following Thanksgiving. Entire families of active members attend, lending a festive note to the meetings. Papers prepared by members are read and discussed. B. R. Chamberlain was a welcome overnight visitor and guest at Morrow Mountain, leading two bird hikes and speaking informally on the history and aims of the Carolina Bird Club, with which

the Tarheel Bird Club is affiliated. A number of members are planning to attend the Fontana Dam Field Trip in October. A total of 45 species were positively identified at Morrow Mountain in August.

Officers re-elected for 1949-50 were Mr. Page, president; Mrs. Julia Maulden, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Andrew Smith, historian.

Mrs. Julia W. Maulden, *Secretary*

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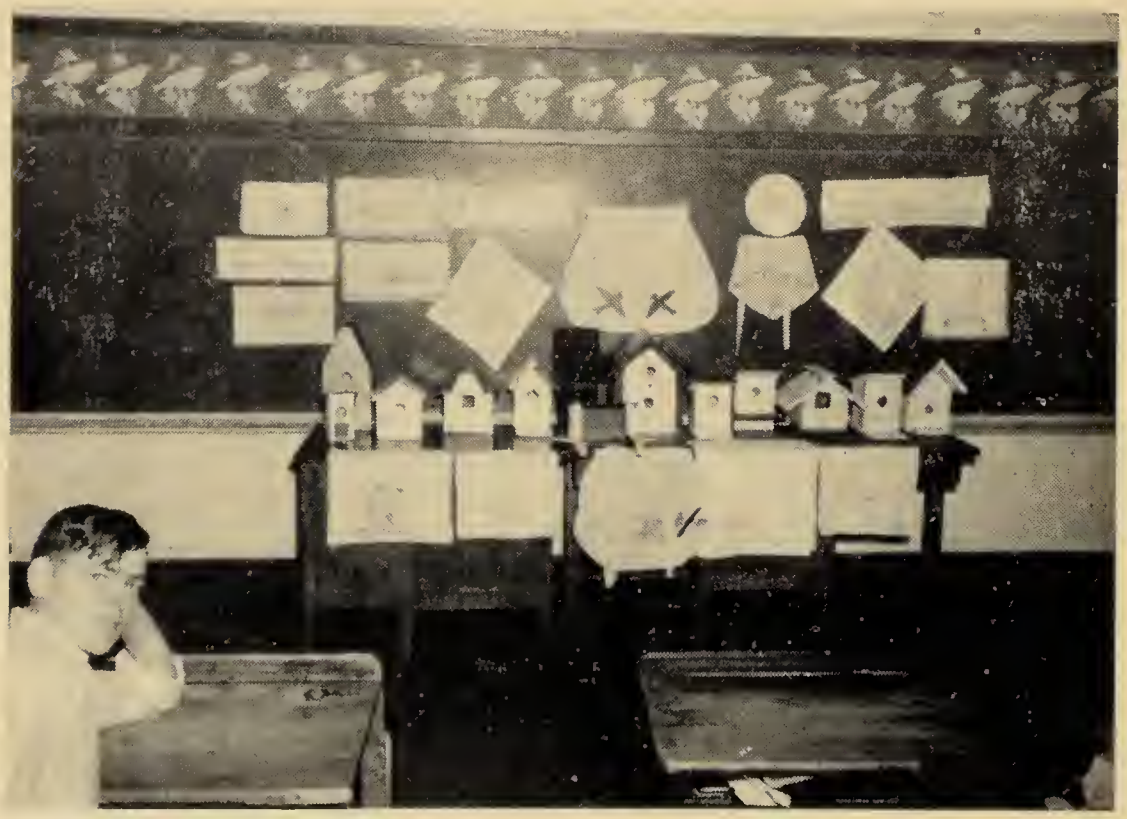
## MISS LUNETTE BARBER ACCEPTS POSITION WITH N. C. WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

Miss Lunette Barber, C. B. C. member from Clayton, Johnston County, N. C., has been appointed Junior Publicity Specialist in the Education Division of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, the first woman to be named to this position.

Miss Barber, who has recently been teaching in Cleveland High School, near Clayton, has well realized that each of our natural resources depends on the use or abuse of several others. She has organized Junior Audubon Clubs in the public



**Work of Junior Nature Club, Grade 5, Cleveland School, Clayton, N. C.**

schools, and during 1948 she organized in the Cleveland school eight Wildlife Junior Clubs—the first in North Carolina, and has prepared an outline for teaching wildlife conservation in the grammar grades, related with the regular school curricula.

In her new work with the Wildlife Resources Commission, Miss Barber will visit schools and civic organizations and make talks on the conservation of natural resources, especially wildlife.

# Bird Symbolism in Chinese Art and Lore

Eddie W. Wilson, Cary, N. C., and Los Angeles, Calif.

Certain common birds of North Carolina are no longer interesting to me merely because of their beauty, song, and varying habits. As I have been engaged for some time in research in Chinese art and literature, these feathered favorites have taken on added significance: the charm of symbolism.

To my delight I have found that these birds have definite meanings—inner meanings—among the Chinese people. The storyteller recounts surprising things concerning them. The poet makes frequent allusions to them. The artist and the artist-craftsman portray them in flight, on the water, and on the land; here bird motif often emphasizes the graceful arching lines of wing and beak. Birds are prominent objects painted, woven, inlaid or engraved, or modeled in bronze, jade, ivory, wood, lacquer, and ceramics—both pottery and porcelain.

Enameled Porcelain Figure of a Goose
—K'sang Hsi Period

In ceramics, birds may appear in the form of vessels, in detached elements on vessels as handles or handle-fastenings; or they may coalesce with a vessel or object itself. Moreover, they have a noteworthy place among the pleasing models in the round of porcelain animals of the K'sang Hsi period. The figure of a goose, here illustrated, is a striking example of this porcelain-ware, smoothly enameled in black, green, yellow, and aubergine or egg-plant color.

In its Chinese setting, the wild goose is among the creatures representative of the *Yang* principle with its qualities of male, light, beneficence, and positiveness, a decided contrast to the *Yin* idea—the two terms, *Yang* and *Yin*, occurring in much of Chinese philosophy, folklore, divination, religion, medicine, science, and magic. The wild goose is thought of in China as the harbinger of good news. Then, as it is often seen in pairs, it is an emblem of the married

state; and it is sometimes given as a betrothal present. Again it is the symbol of intelligence, of learning. The poets make frequent references to the wild goose: "Distant winds speed the autumn geese;" "the lone wild goose;" "On one note the wild geese cry;" and so on.

Another model of married fidelity and affection is the dove or pigeon. It is also the symbol of peace and longevity. It often appears in bronze or jade pendants.

Still another bird symbolizing the qualities of conjugal happiness is the wild duck. In ancient legend, a Mandarin's daughter fell into the Yangtse-Kiang River and was saved by a duck which dived beneather her and guided her to the bank. In history, in the T'ang dynasty, a general made a surprise attack on a town by ordering his men to arouse the ducks in a nearby pond, their noise as they arose from the pond drowning out the sounds of the horses' hoofs. Thus was brought about the capture of the city. Chinese poets have sung of wild ducks "on the sands," "on the islands," and "where the streams meet." And when the poet speaks of ducks "folding their left wings," the wing folded on wing portends "blessing heaped upon blessing."

The crane is the symbol of happiness and prosperity since the sound or characters of its name are similar to those of the word which means *happiness* and *prosperity*—a pleasing example of homophone so common in Chinese language and association. Also, "May your days be long like those of the crane" is a popular wish in China. And this means not merely physical life but life immortal or eternal. As the emblem of longevity, certain Taoist gods and celebrities are pictured riding on a crane, whereas it is an attribute or a companion of other gods. The crane is commended as an example of motherhood; as she shields her young from harm and cold, a human mother should guard her children. Finally, quite astonishing statements are made about this bird. For instance, its life span may be thousands of years. After 600 years it requires only liquid nourishment, whereas after 2,000 years it is said to assume a black color.

In contrast to the birds mentioned is the owl. This creature of the night because of its unusual appearance, its ability to see in the dark, and its noiseless flight has long been regarded as an inauspicious creature; and the poet bewails the fact that young owls, "pretty little creatures," grow up to be "ugly." However, Chinese artists take special pleasure in portraying the mysticism and picturesque qualities of the owl. And owls have had certain missions, notwithstanding their bad repute. They were introduced into the tomb with the dead, presumably because of their ability to see in

the dark; and owls with a fish tail are placed on the roof ridges of large buildings as a protection against fire.

Unique among these birds is the kingfisher, which is prized principally for its beauty. "Kingfisher blue" is a favorite color. Along the quiet banks of creeks the Chinese catch the kingfisher, gently remove feathers, then turn the handsome bird loose. These feathers are used in various objects of art. In the Chicago Natural History Museum there is an excellent example of such a piece. Here on an elaborate helmet of admirable workmanship—this formerly belonged to a high ranking Chinese official—are inlaid blue plumes of the kingfisher in dragon design. Again, one of the early poets, describing an imperial procession, tells of "streamers of kingfisher feathers" that "almost touched the skies as the cavalcade moved east."

Indeed, certain of our birds have charming Chinese associations!

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## New Review of Skinner and Achorn's "A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills"

Dr. T. L. Quay, Raleigh, N. C.

*A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills*, by Milton P. Skinner and Dr. J. W. Achorn, with twelve original color plates by Edmund J. Sawyer, published in 1928, has long been listed as out of print, but recently some copies of this excellent book have been discovered, and it is likely that many members of the Carolina Bird Club who do not already have a working acquaintance with this book will be glad of this opportunity of adding it to their library at bargain rates.

One particular value of this book lies in its being an authentic local ornithology. The data were not just compiled from other books. Milton P. Skinner spent the whole of the winters of 1925-26 and 1926-27 afield in the making of an entirely fresh and original study of the populations and habits of the Sandhills birds. While the investigations centered in the Pinehurst-Southern Pines region, in Moore and Hoke Counties, the work is equally useful not only for adjoining counties but also for most of the Piedmont and Coastal Plain of North and South Carolina and Georgia. Local ornithologies are among the most valuable of all bird publications, because they go into greater detail on the kinds and numbers of birds present at the time and give much more on habits and behavior than do books on larger areas.

*Winter Birds of the Sandhills* treats 97 different species of birds, each under the headings of field identification, description, distribution, and

habits. Habits receive most attention, averaging about two pages for each species. It is here that the book makes its most valuable contribution. To read these vivid discussions is to develop feelings of close familiarity with the lives and problems of these birds throughout the winter months. The vigor and accuracy of Mr. Skinner's field observations are readily apparent. Contrary to many books, this one devotes the most space to the commonest birds, such as six pages for the White-throated Sparrow and over seven for the Mockingbird. Especially valuable ecologically are the data on the populations, now 22 years ago, of the rarer birds and of such game birds as the Wild Turkey, Bob-white, Mourning Dove, Woodcock, Wilson Snipe, and Wood Duck. Possibly the best recommendation I can give this book is to say that I frequently refer to it as a check on my own observations. In this way its usefulness is not limited to any state or region.

Skinner and Achorn is a full-sized book of 315 pages. The species descriptions take up the major portion of the book—225 pages. The first 65 pages contain ten introductory chapters on such interesting and important subjects as the Sandhills and their birds, studying winter birds, attracting birds, how to find field and forest birds, equipment, food, migrations, etc. There are 12 color-plates, by the well-known bird artist Edmund J. Sawyer. These plates show 59 species of birds (usually both male and female), arranged in habitat groups. The frontispiece (Plate 1) is of the magnificent American Wild Turkey, strutting in the long-leaf pine woods. A 13th plate provides a ready guide to 24 colors commonly used in describing birds. Auxiliary to the plates are 29 black and white photographs of typical sandhill habitats.

*A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills* is one of the major contributions to the ornithology of the Carolinas, and is just as usable today as when first published.

This excellent book, which was never very much publicized, was directed toward those "who are, or who wish to become, interested in birds," and especially during the winter season. Harry Davis, Director of the North Carolina State Museum, recently found, stored in a basement in Southern Pines some 350 copies of this book, and with the small revolving fund for publications—N. C. Bird Club Book Fund—these were purchased for distribution. Copies, 6 x 9 inches, bound in attractive green cloth with gold lettering, may be secured for $1.00 each (original proce $4.00), and copies with water damage, on binding only, may be secured 2 for $1.00, by addressing: N. C. Bird Club Book Fund, Box 2281, Raleigh, N. C.

# Field Notes and News

GLOSSY IBIS ON PEA ISLAND, N. C.—On July 21, Sandy McCulloch and I saw a Glossy Ibis on Pea Island Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, on the outer banks in Dare County, N. C. J. J. Murray, Lexington, Va.

CHATHAM COUNTY, N. C.—On August 20th, a flock of about 20 Bobolinks, in fall plumage, were seen at the edge of a grain field in Chatham County, about ten miles from Chapel Hill, N. C., apparently on their way south.
Phillips Russell, Chapel Hill, N. C.

BROWN THRASHER NESTS IN HOLE IN GROUND.—At Wilmington, N. C., on June 1st, Claude and Don McAllister found a Brown Thrasher in a nest in a hole in the ground. Claude banded the three fledglings which were able to run.
Edna Lanier Appleberry

MOUNT MITCHELL, Yancey County, N. C.—At the peak of Mt. Mitchell (elevation 6,884 ft.) on Sept. 7, flocks of Juncos were observed, while 200 feet below a wave of Myrtle Warblers passed through, accompanied by one Winter Wren.
Phillips Russell, Chapel Hill, N. C.

MIGRATING ROBINS: For the past two months dozens of Robins could be seen on my lawn each morning, enjoying the earthworms from any rich turf. These bird were round fat fellows, and were apparently not residents. I wonder if the drought in the northern states did not drive them southward before the usual season of migration. And would their presence as well as flocks of other birds apparently earlier than usual in their migration suggest an early winter?
(Sept. 15, 1949.) Wesley Taylor, Greensboro, N. C.

WILMINGTON, N. C.—For various good reasons the usual birders of the Wilmington Bird Club have not been able to get in the field since June 1st, and Claude McAllister who has daily access to so many varieties of land and shore bird nests has not been at home, so our records have suffered. Painted Buntings seem to be scattering over this entire area. A singing male was seen by M. Baker and E. Appleberry on July 21, in Belleview cemetery in Wilmington, which is a couple of miles farther from the coast than Mr. Empie's record on his farm. Several pairs of Robins have been seen regularly in different parts of the city. We did not check on the nests and young, but as young have been seen for the past several years, it seems established that some Robins do breed in the coastal area. The Purple Martins that nested in the O of the AMOCO sign last year nested in the A this year.
(August 2, 1949.) Edna Lanier Appleberry

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER NESTS AT RALEIGH, N. C.—Our spring bird count April 30, 1949, added a very interesting record as to the inland nesting of the Prothonotary Warbler. While Ernest Mitchell, Jr., and I were covering Swift Creek lowgrounds we observed a pair of these warblers carrying nesting material and going to a dead snag on the banks of the creek. We marked the place for future observations. On May 26 I happened to be in the lowgrounds and came upon this snag, which is about 6 feet tall, situated on the bank, and leans out over the slow-moving water. I punched the snag with my net and out flew the female. Bracing myself from another adjacent tree I reached out and around the snag and found the hole on the water side. The nest was down only 3 inches from the opening, and

held 4 eggs, which were whitish and covered with reddish-brown spots and splotches, thinly on small end and more heavily on larger end.

DAVID L. WRAY, Raleigh, N. C.

PURPLE MARTINS ARRIVED LATE THIS YEAR AT GREENSBORO, N. C.—One pair appeared March 5th, a little later than last year. After March 17th others arrived and dribbled in from then until the last of April. One of my neighbors who eventually reported 12 pairs said that all of them came after May 1st, which is the latest ever reported in my neighborhood.

WESLEY TAYLOR, Justamere Farm, Greensboro, N. C.

GREENSBORO, N. C.—Here are some records of birds, most of them observed by Bill Craft and myself, during the spring and early summer of this year on the lake at our home about five miles north of Greensboro. Most of these were on the lake constantly for days and I very carefully observed the last dates, which are here listed. Red-head Duck, 1, Feb. 24; Red-breasted Merganser, 2, May 6; Lesser Scaup, 4, May 10; Baldpate, 3, May 12; Ringneck Duck, 1, May 13. Three young Green Herons which had just left the nest were seen June 3rd, and 4 young were seen July 18; the nests were close together and I believe both broods were from the same parents. Two young Wood Ducks were seen June 26, and a young Woodcock was seen on the same date. A Coot was observed on the lake by H. L. Medford and H. L. Medford, Jr., on July 18, which seems like a late date for this bird.

MRS. FLOYD HUGH CRAFT

SPRING COUNT AT DURHAM, N. C. Territory covered included Duke Campus, Bird Sanctuary, Ellerbee lowlands, and country roads through farmland and forest north and northwest of Durham. About 25% pine, 25% deciduous forest, 20% mixed pine and hardwood, 20% open fields, 10% marshy lowlands. May 7, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather clear to scattered clouds, temp. 65 to 85°F., no wind. About 20 miles by car, 6 miles on foot. American Egret, Green Heron, American Bittern, Turkey Vulture, Bob-white, Mourning Dove, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Oven-bird, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-wing, Purple Grackle, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow. (The Chuck-will's-widow and Whip-poor-will were heard the preceding night, but not seen.) Total, 66 species. Observers: *C. B. Martin, Jr., and Richard Kramer.*

SPRING CENSUS AT RALEIGH, N. C. April 30, 1949: Dawn to dusk; cool, cloudy, and intermittent rain during most of the day. Territory covered same as for Christmas census. Species observed: Great Blue, Little Blue, Green, and Yellow-crowned Night Herons; American and Least Bitterns; Baldpate; Lesser Scaup Duke; Turkey and Black Vultures; Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Marsh Hawks; Osprey; Duck and Sparrow Hawks; Bobwhite; Killdeer; Wilson's Snipe; Spotted and Solitary

Sandpipers; Lesser Yellowlegs; Ring-billed Gull; Mourning Dove; Yellow-billed Cuckoo; Great Horned Owl; Chuck-will's-widow; Whip-poor-will; Chimney Swift; Ruby-throated Hummingbird; Belted Kingfisher; Flicker; Red-bellied, and Red-headed Woodpeckers; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers; Eastern Kingbird; Crested Flycatcher; Phoebe; Acadian Flycatcher; Wood Pewee; Tree, Rough-winged, and Barn Swallows; Purple Martin; Blue Jay; Crow; Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; White-breasted and Brown-headed Nuthatches; House, Carolina and Long-billed Marsh Wrens; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Veery; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Cedar Waxwing; Shrike; Starling; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Mountain, and Red-eyed Vireos; Black and White, Prothonotary, Worm-eating, Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Yellow-throated, Black-poll, Pine, Prairie and Yellow Palm Warblers; Oven-bird; Northern and Louisiana Waterthrushes; Maryland Yellowthroat; Chat; Hooded Warbler; Redstart; English Sparrow; Bobolink; Meadowlark; Red-wing; Orchard Oriole; Rusty Blackbird; Purple Grackle; Cowbird; Scarlet and Summer Tanagers; Cardinal; Blue Grosbeak; Indigo Bunting; Goldfinch; Red-eyed Towhee; Savannah, Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows; Junco; Chipping, Field, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows. Total: 117 species. Observers: *D. L. Wray* (compiler), *F. B. Meacham*, *Ernest E. Mitchell, Jr.*, *E. W. and Johnny Winkler*, *Phillip Davis and Sons*, *Sandy McCulloch*, *Mrs. B. W. Wells*, *J. W. Johnson*, *Robt. Overing*, *Gene Lloyd, and C. H. Bostian*, *Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Strickland*, *Miss Virginia Pickelle*, *Ethel Wray*, *Will Hon*, *T. L. Quay*, *John McIlvain*, *Leon Ballance*, *Stanley Moore*, *Harold Barber*, *Ben Cathey*, *R. R. Rudolph*.

SOME OBSERVATIONS OF NESTING CAROLINA WRENS: I had long been under the impression that the earliest song bird nesters in the region of Greensboro, N. C., were the Bluebirds; however, one morning this spring I noticed a bunch of straw hanging from a large paper bag, containing an old quilt and lying on a shelf in the garage. Examination revealed a nest in the making, and soon a pair of Carolina Wrens which were working on it, entered through a space beneath the garage door. On March 25, five eggs were seen in the nest, and on March 27, we noted that the bird was incubating. During the first few days, when anyone entered the garage the wren would leave her nest, so I removed all of the garden tools kept there, so as not to disturb the bird too much. Finally, we noticed that she evidently began to trust us and we could work right along side of the nest, even placing and removing articles from the shelf beside the nest.

Just two weeks after the eggs were found, two baby birds were noticed, and the next day all five had hatched. In observing the feeding, we would sit in the car, and we found that each parent would appear with food twice about every ten minutes. The time seldom varied. After the young birds were about ten days old, I noticed that the parent did not remain with them at night. At ten o'clock on the morning of April 24, just two weeks after they left their shells, we saw all five babies leave the nest after the parents had called to them for some time. In less than an hour all had flown from the garage and into some trees.

(May 12, 1949) BERTHA K. SWART, Greensboro, N. C.

## With the Editor

DATES FOR 1949 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. Saturday, December 24th through January 1st, 1950, inclusive. Now is the time to begin to check over your local area for your Christmas count and get your plans organized. Local clubs, groups, and individuals are asked to make

counts wherever possible. Enlist the help of every local bird enthusiast in this pleasant game and see that beginners go with more experienced observers.

BUILDING BIRD HOUSES: Now is the time to prepare homes for birds for the coming season. To meet requests for simple instructions for building bird houses, we have copies of a leaflet reprinted from the March 1948 issue of *The Chat*. Drop a card to the Editor if you need a copy, or a few copies of the leaflet, "Building Proper Homes for Your Bird Neighbors."

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS AT DURHAM, N. C.—The National Audubon Society Screen Tours will be presented this winter at Durham under the sponsorship of the Durham Children's Museum Association. Five splendid moving picture-lecture programs are being presented, including: Alexander Sprunt, Jr., Nov. 22, "From Coast to Coast;" William Ferguson, Dec. 8, "World in Nature;" Leonard Hall, Jan. 27. "The Web of Life;" Bert Harwell, Feb. 27, "Canada West;" and Allan D. Cruickshank, March 23, "Trails for the Millions." Time for all Tours is 8:00 p.m., and the place is Carr Junior High School Auditorium, Morgan St., Durham, N. C. Tickets for the series are $2.50 for adults, $1.25 for students. For information address Dr. G. W. Wharton, Zoology Dept., Duke University, Durham, N. C.

"HAWKS ALOFT—THE STORY OF HAWK MOUNTAIN," new book by Maurice Broun, Curator of Hawk Mountain (Pa.) Sanctuary, is a dramatic story of the Hawks, and other birds, and animals, and plants, and rocks of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, which has the answer to the question of why every year thousands of visitors from every State of the Union make the trek to this peak in eastern Pennsylvania. The book, which has an introduction by Roger Tory Peterson, includes 8 pages of illustrations and a calendar table of hawk flights, and the price is $4.10, postpaid. For a copy of the book or for further information regarding the Sanctuary, write to: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Rt. 2, Kempton, Pa.

A REAL BIRD BOOK BARGAIN—is contained in the notice regarding Skinner and Achorn's *Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills*," which appears on another page in this issue. Harry Davis, N. C. State Museum Director, who was lucky enough to turn up a few hundred copies which have been stored too long, states: "Printed in Pennsylvania, and distributed by a New York firm, I have no knowledge of its having had any publicity or review in North Carolina. With this in mind, I gather that most of our folks had not heard of it or knew it only as a second hand

item. Thus I lent encouragement for a full review of it by Tom Quay. . . I would like for the offer to appear in *The Chat* in order that members might have the first chance at them. This all falls into my reasoning that consistent interest in our birds can be best promoted with good literature."

"HALCYON DAYS"—is an expression which may be heard about this time in some sections, when a spell of calm, warm "Indian summer" days make us forget the summer's heat and storms and the winter weather still to come. And most of us have little idea regarding the origin of the phrase, unless we had perhaps noted the scientific name of the kingfisher. The phrase dates to the ancient Greeks, who believed that during the bright, calm days that sometimes intervene in a Mediterranean winter a bird called the halcyon, possibly the kingfisher, made a nest on the floating water and raised its young. "Halcyon" literally means "seaborn." The origin of such a superstition is difficult to explain. Perhaps human fishermen were not observant enough to find the truth regarding nests in earthen banks or bluffs, and so the superstition of the floating nest to explain the mystery.

RALEIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES AUDUBON'S BIRTH DATE: The Wiley graded school, at Raleigh, N. C., on April 27th, celebrated Audubon's birthday with an elaborately organized program which included a processional march by the band, and songs, poems, and skits by the various grades. One particularly interesting skit demonstrated a bird periscope, a mirror on the end of a long pole, for examining the contents of nests without climbing. Over one hundred guests, including parents and also 20 boys and girls from Boylan Heights school, were present to hear the program and see the extensive exhibits in the hall and library. The exhibits included bird drawings, feeding stations and bird houses, a few mounted specimens, original bird poems, bird books and maps showing bird flyways. The principal, Miss Barnett Spratt, presented a framed Audubon print of the Pileated Woodpecker, to be hung in the library.

MOVING PICTURES FOR CLUBS AND TEACHERS.—If you have available a projector for 16mm moving pictures, there are several sources where films may be rented at very reasonable rates. The National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y., has numerous attractive moving pictures in black and white and colors, some of them sound. Send 10c to their Photo and Film Dept. for a copy of their new catalog of audio-visual material for sale and rental. Their three new colored sound pictures, The Robin, The Bluebird, and The Thrush are super, but don't get them unless your 16mm projector is equipped for sound. American Nature Association Film Library, 13 East 37th St., New York 16, N. Y., has several 16mm black and white silent moving pictures of nature and the outdoors. Bureau of Visual Education, Swain Hall, Chapel Hill, N. C., has a variety of films including several good ones, some colored, on birds.

"GUEST POND FOR GEESE"—is the title of a paper by Hazel Ross Gaddy (Mrs. Lockhart Gaddy), in the April 1949 issue of *Outdoor Life* (p. 97-98). The article which is interestingly written and well illustrated, tell a bit of the history of Gaddy's Wild Goose Refuge near Ansonville, N. C., whose population at the close of the 1949 hunting season numbered about five thousand birds, mostly Canada Geese, but including small numbers of other interesting ducks and geese. If you are anywhere within reasonable distance of Gaddy's goose pond, it will be well worth your time to spend a few hours there, some time between October and early March. Since the birds during their stay consume hundreds of bushels of grain, Mr. Gaddy has been compelled to make a charge of twenty-five cents for adults, but this has not discouraged visitors, whose numbers continually increase. The refuge is reached from U. S. Highway 52, just south of Ansonville and about nine miles north of Wadesboro.

CAROLINIANS ATTEND MAINE AUDUBON NATURE CAMP: Miss Sarah M. Nooe, biology teacher at Queens College, Charlotte, N. C., and Miss Kitty W. Sandifer, York, S. C. resident who is a primary teacher at Charlotte, N. C., each attended a two weeks' session at the National Audubon Society's Nature Camp, at Medomac, Maine, during the past summer. Miss Nancy Eliason, former Secretary of North Carolina Bird Club, also attended one of the summer's sessions. Miss Margaret Y. Wall, a member of Carolina Bird Club's Executive Committee, and Principal of Caldwell School, Greensboro, N. C., was an instructor at the camp, in charge of Nature Activities, during the entire ten weeks session. In a letter from the Audubon Nature camp, dated August 1st, Mrs. Wall writes: "The birds have been wonderful this year. The Cruickshanks (Mr. and Mrs. Allan D.) have photographed for the first time Golden-crowned Kinglets (young in nest), and nesting Winter Wrens. Crossbills are all over the place. A Red Crossbill was in a bird bath four feet from me yesterday. You should have been here with that new movie camera."

SPEAKING OF AUDUBON NATURE CAMPS: More than 2,000 youth leaders have graduated from the Maine Audubon Camp since it was started in 1936. Other summer Audubon Nature Camps have been established in Connecticutt, Texas, and California. The programs are essentially the same, and each camper enrolls for a two-weeks session sometime during the summer and participates in informal field classes, with instruction in Nature Activities, Bird, Plants, Insects and other Invertebrates, and Vertebrates other than birds (or marine life). Those who attend these enthusiastic and inspiring sessions include teachers, principals, superintendents, librarians, those actively engaged in youth leadership in Scout, Camp Fire Girls, Future Farmers, 4-H Club organizations, camp nature counselors, garden and women's club conservation and bird committe personnel, and others interested in nature education and conservation. For information regarding the 1950 Audubon Nature Camps for adult leaders, write to: National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N. Y.

"MIX YOUR OWN BIRD FEED"—says Dr. Wesley Taylor, of Greensboro, N. C., after reading an advertisement offering 20 pounds of mixed bird feed for $5.00 plus postage. He says that you can mix your bird feed for about 5 cents a pound, and here's the formula for his successful bird seed mix: Baby chick scratch, 60%; Rolled oats, 5 to 10%; Wheat 3 to 5%; Millet 2%; Sorghum (Cane) 3%; Dried currants, 15%; Peanuts (cracked or as peanut butter) 5 to 10%; Sunflower seed, 5 to 10%; Rice, 2%. The amounts need to be varied somewhat with the season as well as with the kinds of birds that come. Note which grains are not all consumed and use fewer of them until they are all used proportionally. Most of our readers will probably agree with Dr. Taylor's statement: "A piece of fresh beef suet hung out of reach of cats and rats is the best single drawing card you can have."

"YOU CAN GROW YOUR OWN GOURDS"—states Dr. Wesley Taylor, of Greensboro, N. C., after several years' experience in raising gourds to help supply the needs of his extensive colony of Purple Martins. Here is the method he suggests: "Use paper drinking cups filled with good rich soil to start thing. Put not more than two seeds in each and place in a warm sunny window, several weeks before planting out of doors. Keep moist, and when all danger of frost is past, split the sides of the cups and place—cup and all—where you wish them to grow. Handle gourds as little as possible, and then only with clean gloves. They form a sort of mold from handling. Gourds require lots of water *regularly*. They may be trained on almost any fence. Those that *hang* from the *vine* are preferable to those that rest on the ground. Large ones on the ground should have a board or a brick under them. Dust lightly with powder containing pyrethrum whenever squash bugs appear. Permit the gourds to hang until dry. If you pick them before they are fully dry they may shrivel.

The following paragraphs are from the FOREWORD published on the front page of the first issue of *The Chat*, volume I, No. 1, March, 1937:

"*The Chat* will publish two types of information about birds. The first type will be information which is of scientific value helping know more accurately the life history of particular species. Such data will deal with the scarcity or abundance of this species throughout the State, migration dates, nesting data, sub-species, and the like. Much of this information must be gathered regularly by someone in each community: therefore we welcome all field notes and will publish such notes by localities. The value of such notes will depend upon their accuracy.

"The other type of information will be of a popular nature. All of our people are not interested in doing work of the first type, and some have not yet learned enough about our birds to gather many data. All of us are interested in the aesthetic values of birds and in the sheer pleasure which they bring to us. Therefore we hope to publish articles which will stimulate our interest in our birds, help us know more species, and perhaps lead us into that keener interest which will spur us to gather information of scientific value as well as aesthetic. You will recognize that an article may contain both types of information, for the two types are not mutually exclusive."

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NEW MEMBERSHIPS received now will be credited for the entire year 1950, and in addition will receive the November 1949 *Chat* free. If you need some membership blanks, drop a card to Robert Overing, Treasurer, Carolina Bird Club, Rt. 4, Raleigh, N. C. How about increasing the number of $5.00 Supporting Members from your locality? The Carolina Bird Club could greatly increase its usefulness if more funds were available. Send all subscriptions and applications for membership to Robert Overing, Treasurer, Rt. 4, Raliegh, N. C.

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# The Chat

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# The Chat

BULLETIN OF CAROLINA BIRD CLUB, INC.

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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Cover Photo by Oscar Paris.

## Plan to Attend the Carolina Bird Club Field Trip to Lake Mattamuskeet, January 21-22, 1950

According to trip chairman Bob Wolff, all except one of the local clubs favored a January date for the field trip to Lake Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, in Hyde County, N. C., and the date has been set for Saturday and Sunday, January 21-22. Informal activities are planned for the afternoon and evening of Friday, January 20th, and all who can possibly get to Mattamuskeet an hour before sunset on Friday will have the advantage of seeing two afternoon and morning flights of the geese. *First reservations will be given first choice,* so if you plan to go *make your reservations immediately* to Mr. Axon Smith, Manager, Mattamuskeet Lodge, New Holland, N. C. Rates: $7.25 for Single room with bath and 3 meals; $6.25 for single room without bath, and 3 meals; $5.75 double room (each), no bath, 3 meals. Separate meals: Breakfast, 85c; lunch, $1.25; supper, $1.75. If there are more than 70 people, Mr. Smith will "farm" some out to tourists homes or other lodging places.

Field trips by truck to the Mattamuskeet-Swanquarter region will be made Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon (and possibly Sunday morning), and a trip by boat to the Swanquarter region is planned for Saturday afternoon (with another for Sunday morning, if there are sufficient additional reservations.)

One special event will be a real "eastern Carolina oyster roast," which will be held Saturday evening in the park on the causeway across the lake. (If any who do not like oysters would prefer outdoor cooked fish, we will add the "fish-fry," or if you do not choose either fish or oysters, meals will be served in the Lodge.) *Note*: Those who wish to take part in a boat trip, or to take part in the oyster roast or fish fry, or have questions, write to: Robert L. Wolff, Box 294, Greenville, N. C., but make your arrangements for lodging and meals directly through Mr. Axon Smith, Manager, Mattamuskeet Lodge, New Holland, N. C.

Saturday evening at the Lodge, J. W. E. Joyner, President of the Francis H. Craighill Bird Club, Rocky Mount, N. C., will show some of his new colored moving pictures of birds. The story of the Mattamuskeet Refuge will be sketched, and the group will be briefed on the field trips. It is desired that a member of each local club will make a brief report (5 minutes or so) telling of the work of his club, with perhaps movies, slide pictures, photographs, posters, booklets, or other display material showing something of the activities of the local units.

The chief attraction on the field trips will be thousands of Canada

Geese and Whistling Swans, as well as many other varities of water and song birds. Since the Carolina Bird Club had already made four field trips to the Mattamuskeet-Swanquarter region, many of those who make this trip will likely be repeaters; those who have already been there need not be told of the fine time they will have.

Mattamuskeet may be reached *via* U.S. Route 264 through Washington, Belhaven, and Swanquarter, to New Holland.

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## Carolina Bird Club Fall Meeting Held at Fontana Village

Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh, N. C.

The annual fall meeting of the Carolina Bird Club was held at Fontana Village, N. C., in the Great Smoky Mountains, on October 1-2, with nearly a hundred attending from sixteen different local clubs, and also individuals from localities where there are no local clubs. The most distant club member was from Wilson, but an enthusiastic visitor, who took part in all meetings and field trips, was a Fontana vacationer from California who had "birded all over the world."

We had perfect weather, though we were disappointed that the coloring, though lovely, was far from being at its peak, so some of us suggested that since we had had two succesive meetings in the mountains in autumn, and always too early for the best pagentry of autumn, that we have the meeting two-three weeks later, next year.

President Rhett Chamberlain ran the meeting in his usual efficient manner and with the usual and amusing ad libbing. Only the boxes of apples were missing, yet this was mountain country. How come?

Fontana was "new huntings" to many of us and its situation, 1800 feet above sea level and surrounded by mountains giving it a nestled Swiss-like appearance, added to the charm of the meeting.

Arthur Stupka, Park Naturalist of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, was the featured speaker. He had moved in "bag and family" from his official headquarters at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and the visiting bird-folk kept him busy. Friday night there was a get-together meeting at which he made a brief talk, and plans were discussed for the meetings and field trips. Never, I believe, had a group worked him so hard, but never, he stated, had he had a group with as much interest and enthusiasm, or one that he enjoyed more. And the bird-folk enjoyed meeting his family.

Mr. Stupka explained something of the bird and plant life of the region,

telling how the very southern end of the Canadian Zone, the red spruce and fir forest, ended just two miles west of Clingman's Dome.

### *By Car, by Boat, and Afoot*

Meals were at the cafeteria, which made a good meeting place, and a good starting point for the trips, whether by foot or by car. There were interesting walks in all directions, close by, also from several vantage points reached by car. The Saturday morning trip was chiefly for birds, and as Mr. Stupka explained, and we began to see, the most typical bird of this period (migration was still on) was the Olive-backed Thrush, and we saw numbers of them from time to time. A passing motorist picked up a dead bird, so we had a good close up, noting the very olive back, so different from the more rufous back of the Wood and Hermit Thrushes, and particularly the buffy cheeks and distinctive buffy eye-ring, which distinguish it from the Gray-cheeked Thrush.

Another typical bird during migration is the Rose-breasted Grosbeak. The most typical of the breeding hawks are the Broad-winged and the Red-tailed; the most common breeding warbler is the Chestnut-sided. Interesting, too, was his statement that the Winter Wren, which breeds in many localities in the mountains, is credited with being one of the sweetest singers, its song even finer some think than that hautingly sweet song of the Hermit Thrush, or the Veery, which is the common breeding thrush of the high altitudes. Margaret Wall, who has heard both this Winter Wren and the Hermit Thrush, in Maine, agreed with the statement.

Since many of the club members are plant enthusiasts, also, and since Mr. Stupka had emphasized how the two were interrelated, and "if you would know birds, you must also know something of plant life," there was a request for an early afternoon plant trip, before the scheduled boat trip Saturday. To this, Mr. Stupka graciously consented, but said we'd emphasize plants, but also note birds and anything else of interest. Here were heard how the difference in habitat, brought about by the wide openings created by the power line lanes brought in birds that had not been in the area before—such as Yellow-breasted Chat, Towhee, and Indigo Bunting, birds that like to nest in sunny thickets and low, second-growth shrubs.

We heard how a good, or poor crop of berries, nuts and acorns can affect the life of many birds, squirrels, and even bears. We got several close-ups of the Pileated Woodpecker, both in flight and on trees. We got a fine sight of a young doe, but no one saw a bear, though there are plenty

in the park. There were several young trees and shrubs new to many of the group, such as the lovely mountain *stewartia*, Hercules Club, some viburnums.

*The Phalarope*

Probably the biggest thrill of the meeting was the surprise of the Phalarope that Rhett Chamberlain first spotted in the lake from the dock, while waiting for the boat—and without binoculars! Later, in the boat (an hour and a half ride on the lake) we were able to approach within a few feet and got its markings and flight pattern. It was a Red Phalarope.

Just the night before Mr. Stupka had told of the parks' one record for a Phalatrope, one had been picked up dead, on the 1944 Christmas census. Such a rare record might not occur again in a hundred years, he stated. And then to see one the next day! Yet there are only six occasions when Phalaropes have been recorded in the state, and those mainly along the coast, for the phalaropes nest in the far north, and migrate far out to sea. Which just goes to show, however, that almost anything can happen in the bird world.

Both on the field trips and in the Saturday evening talk, when he showed some excellent colored pictures of birds, animals, trees and flowers, even fungi, Mr. Stupka emphasized the many "firsts" the park has in large trees—as fire cherry, service berry, tulip trees, Fraser's magnolia, etc. He also stated that the Park had more species of trees than has all of Europe.

A few indefatigables even took a short stretch along the Appalachian Trail, which enters the Fontana region, and before leaving, Sunday morning, a few of us took still another short hike along another section of the Trail.

All in all, it was an excellent meeting, with 49 species of birds seen, but with ducks, unfortunately, lacking, though all scanned the lake and dam eagerly, whenever we were near. The next meeting, a winter one, will be at Lake Mattamuskeet.

## News of the Local Clubs

B. R. Chamberlain, "Critter Hill," Route 1, Matthews, N. C.

HICKORY BIRD CLUB. J. Weston Clinard, President, reports that his group is looking forward to bigger and better facilities when the new Hickory Municipal Building is completed. C. B. C. will do well to keep Hickory in mind for a visit before long. There is good birding around

that secton and when they add shelter to that, our requirements are met. ***J. Weston says that he and Miss Minnie Gwaltney and some of the others plan to be on hand again this winter (Jan. 20-22) at Mattamuskeet. The enthusiasm of this group for the 575 mile round trip to mingle with the swans and geese is wonderful.

MECKLENBURG AUDUBON CLUB. The Charlotte folks are still open-mouthed over the eagle banding experiences described by Mr. Charles L. Broley at Queens Auditorium on November 19th. He and Mrs. Broley are delightful people and we found their visit most enjoyable. ***Like Hickory, Charlotte is on the verge of building a new Auditorium and our Club has officially gone on record with an earnest plea that the architect include a not too small community lecture hall and a private Headquarters room for our Club. ***Bea Potter, President, is at the moment soaking up some California sunshine with daughter Bea.

CHARLESTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY. Charleston was ably represented at Fontana by Robert and Wilhelmina Coleman. (Fontana is only some 380 miles from Charleston). ***We are delighted to know that E. B. Chamberlain, long a mainstay for this group, is back in circulation after an illness of some length. At the time of this writing he is counting wild fowl with his son in Florida. E. B., Jr. is with the Florida Wildlife Commission, having received his Master's degree in conservation work at V. P. I.

GREENVILLE, S. C. BIRD CLUB. The recent activities of May Puett, President, and her group are much too strenuous for this writer. We turn you over to the Greenville News: "If you have any kinks in your brain and brawn join the Greenville Bird Club—still in its infancy, but walking, well! On Sunday, October 23, nine of its members got on the 7:00 A.M. Asheville bus and rode to Bob's Creek Road near the state line. Here they began an 18 (eighteen) mile hike which ended at the junction of the River Falls road with the Greer highway. The Brevard bus was hailed by this tired but enthusiastic group at 6:45 P.M., and with a perfect day behind them they made plans for a trip to the famous Bulls Island refuge near Charleston." It isn't clear from the paper whether they plan to walk to Charleston, and we are ashamed to ask. May Puett, Rosalee and Gladys Hart, and Ruth Gilreath also showed up at Fontana Dam, and we are not sure of how they got there either.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB. At the October meeting, held on the evening of the 20th, Raymond Kaighn, a member who recently returned

from a trip to Hawaii, told of his trip and showed beautiful colored slide pictures he had taken during his travels in Hawaii and elsewhere. ***The annual Christmas dinner meeting will be held at the Starmount Country Club on Thursday evening, Dec. 8. ***The annual Christmas bird count is planned for Monday, Dec. 26, with Saturday, Dec. 31 as an alternative date in case the weather is bad.

## Christmas Bird Count December 24 to January 1

This year, as in the past several years, Carolina Bird Club will cooperate with the National Audubon Society in making the Christmas count of the number and kinds of birds in various localities throughout the nation. Last year *The Chat* printed counts from 19 localities, including 3 from South Carolina. We hope to have more this year, particularly from South Carolina. Local clubs, groups, and individuals are urged to make counts wherever possible.

RULES

As this is written, the National Audubon Society rules for the 1949 count are not yet available, but the rules for the 1948 count (published in Audubon Field Notes, Vol. 2, no. 6, Nov. 1948, p. 246-248), showed extensive revision, so perhaps will be largely followed this year.

PLEASE READ THIS: In order to be published in the January issue of *The Chat*, lists from C. B. C. members must be received by the editor of *The Chat* not later than Saturday, January 7; the birds *must* be listed in the order of the A. O. U. check list (as in most recent bird books); lists should be typewritten if possible, and *should be double-spaced.* (Note: Single-spaced lists, or lists readable with difficulty owing to thin paper or poor carbon copy will have to be recopied and will appear in a later issue of *The Chat.* Please check your additions carefully. The names of all participants should be listed at the end of the count. We would appreciate, on a separate piece of paper, a list of the names *and addresses* of all participants.

If possible, get a list of the National Audubon Society rules for the count. If you wish to examine last year's counts as samples, drop a card to the editor of *The Chat*, W.C.U.N.C., Greensboro, N. C., with your request and we will send you a copy of the January 1949, issue of *The Chat.*

THE AWL BIRDS—by J. K. Stanford, is an exciting adventure story based on the return of the Avocet to England as a breeding bird after an absence of over 100 years. Attractively printed and illustrated by A. M. Hughes, you will probably not lay this book down until you have finished reading its 90 pages. A nice holiday gift for any friend who is a nature lover. The price is $2.00 at your booksellers. Published by The Devin-Adair Co., 23-25 East 26th St., New York 10, N. Y.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN FOR NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA: The resignation of Dr. T. L. Quay as Membership Chairman was accepted with regret, and President B. Rhett Chamberlain has appointed the following membership chairmen: Mrs. C. S. Warren, Lenoir, N. C., Membership Chairman for North Carolina; and Mrs. William H. Faver, Eastover, S. C., Membership Chairman for South Carolina.

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## Field Notes and News

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: On October 8th I observed a male Scarlet Tanager eating the fruit of the flowering dogwood. R. H. WITHERINGTON.

MISSISSIPPI KITE OBSERVED AT SOUTHERN PINES, N. C.—On October 20, while playing golf at Southern Pines, a bird which I first took to be a Duck Hawk sailed overhead. Closer observation, however, revealed that it was a Mississippi Kite. GEORGE A. SMITH, Greensboro, N. C.

LOCKHART GADDY'S WILD GEESE REFUGE, ANSONVILLE, N. C.: The first Canada Geese, 17 in number, arrived September 22nd, the earliest ever. Around 400 had come up to Sunday, October 23rd, but on October 24th and 25th at least a 1,000 more had arrived. It's a thrilling sight to see the large flights as they come in for the first Southern landing. THE GADDYS.

BARNACLE GOOSE AT GADDY'S POND, ANSONVILLE, N. C.: While on a visit to Lockhart Gaddy's Wild Goose Refuge, at Ansonville, N. C., on Sunday, Nov. 6th, Mr. and Mrs. Gaddy pointed out a goose which they had identified as a Barnacle Goose, and which they had first noticed the previous Thursday, Nov. 3rd, among the 3,000 or more Canada Geese present on their pond at the time. Mr. and Mrs. Gaddy are undoubtedly correct in their identification of this bird which is so rare in North America. "Birds of North Carolina" (1942) states: "There are only a dozen or so records of the bird appearing in North America; three of these are from North Carolina." On November 13th, with several students from Greensboro, I visited Gaddy's pond again, and observed this goose for two hours or more, this time at much closer range, since the bird had apparently become less wary. (On Nov. 6, there were, among many other birds, three Blue Geese and an adult Snow Goose on the pond. A week later, on November 13, the Snow Goose was gone, but 9 Blue Geese, including both young and adults, were present.)
ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY.

FONTANA VILLAGE, N. C.—Observed by Carolina Bird Club members on fall trip to Fontana Village and Fontana Dam, N. C., Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 1949: Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Spotted Sandpiper, *Red Phalarope*, Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Palm Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Yellow-throat, English Sparrow, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total, 49 species. Of special interest was the Red Phalarope, which was observed for some time at close range by most of the group of observers. *Arthur Stupka*, compiler, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

CEDAR WAXWINGS NEST IN GUILFORD COUNTY, N. C.: On July 5th, 1949, George A. Smith reported that he had found a dead young Cedar Waxwing and located the nest in a tree at his home in the Starmount section which adjoins the western limits of Greensboro, N. C. He reported that two adult Cedar Waxwings had been seen about his home since June 1st, and members of his family had several times seen a Cedar Waxwing chase a Robin which was carrying nesting materials. The Cedar Waxwing nest was about 30 feet from the ground, in a Virginia Pine. Late in the afternoon of July 6th, I visited the locality and found the adult Waxwings feeding two young birds which were out of the nest. I have since learned that on June 18th and 19th, 1948, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Medford, at the home in Greensboro, observed Cedar Waxwings feeding two young birds, but the nest was not located. According to *Birds of North Carolina* (Pearson, Brimley, & Brimley, 1942), "This waxwing breeds locally in Western North Carolina and rarely in the central and eastern part of the State." ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH DISPLAY BLUFFS BLUEBIRD—Apparently the White-breasted Nuthatch considers the particular tree he is "working" at a given time his property and doesn't like poachers. He will make a belligerent show of defending his rights. On September 5, at Greensboro Country Park, I observed a White-breasted Nuthatch scaling downward on a sweetgum tree. A young Bluebird flew up and perched on the opposite side of the tree, clinging to the bark about two feet above the ground. The Nuthatch continued his energetic downward course unaware of the Bluebird. As he rounded the tree trunk and came face to face with the Bluebird, the Nuthatch "froze" to the bark.

I was only a few yards away, and with the aid of binoculars was able to bring the little drama to arm's length. The Nuthatch spread his wings as if "putting up his fists." The Bluebird stared curiously, but made no move to retreat. The Nuthatch then spread his wings to their fullest and expanded his tail like a Japanese fan. He made no move to attack, but held his fighting position and "glared" at the Bluebird. After perhaps a minute of the "I dare you to hit me first" tactic, the Bluebird flew away. The Nuthatch immediately folded his wings and tail and went unconcernedly about his prospecting for insects. JOHN A. MCLEOD, JR., Greensboro, N. C.

CASUALTIES AT "BRIER PATCH": A partridge nest with fourteen eggs in it was found in the garden on June 26. A bantam hen from a neighbor's flock had laid two eggs in it and apparently the partridge had abandoned the nest after the bantam had interfered. Hoping to induce the partridge to return to her nest, the bantam eggs were removed with a spoon, but she did not come back. The nest was left for a few days and something ate all the eggs except two.

On April 5 I found a female Eastern Robin in the drive. She appeared to be sick so I picked her up and found her head to be covered with what I thought was blue berries, from the cedar under which she was sitting. On closer inspection I found the "blue berries" to be blood-filled ticks. I removed exactuly fifteen! I doctored the poor thing but in about three hours she succumbed. I believe this is the same robin that nested here last summer in a pear tree. She returned on March 27 and began a nest in the same tree. A flat rock had been placed between the forks of the tree and she built again on this rock. After she died I looked to see if the nest had been completed and found that it had, but there were no eggs.

On April 9 I found a dead Chipping Sparrow which had one tick on his head. A few days later I saw a Brown Thrasher that appeared to be sick. I observed him for a few days and he finally recovered. I concluded he had eaten too much as I was still putting out food for them.

Late in August the Cardinals, Orchard Orioles, Mockingbirds, Catbirds, Summer Tanagers and Thrashers visited the grape arbor daily. Most of the birds picked

grapes from the vine but the Brown Thrashers seemed to eat the ones that had fallen on the ground. One morning I saw a thrasher acting strangely and I attempted to catch him. He went into the briers so I left him there. Late that afternoon I found him dead under the grape arbor. I concluded that he took on too many fermented grapes and had died drunk! CLARA HEARNE, Pittsboro, N. C.

PARTIAL ALBINO ROBIN SEEN AT MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.: On the morning of February 3, Mrs. Davant and I saw in our yard, in Morehead City, N. C., a most unusual and beautiful bird, a "blond" Robin. The bird, with about fifty normal Robins alighted in my flower bed and then went to a small bird bath which I have placed on the ground. With five normal Robins, this bird drank and mingled with the others for three or four minutes, giving us an excellent opportunity to observe it closely. The normal birds displayed no animosity to the bird, though they did seem to be very interested.

This bird was a beautiful cream all over, except for the breast, which was decidedly rosy. In size and behavior it was like the other Robins, though it appeared to me that it was somewhat more graceful in flight. Though we have watched carefully we have not seen it again. There has been an unusually large number of Robins here during the past winter, more than I have seen for years, and our yard, where we always have food and water, has been alive with the usual Cardinals, Towhees, White-throated Sparrows, Brown Thrashers, Catbirds, Carolina Wrens, Myrtle Warblers, and Yellow-breasted Chats, and my old Mockingbird and his "wife" are always in evidence—they almost eat out of my hand now. This mocker, which I call "Listen To," is eternally at war with the Robins over the Yaupon berries.

C. R. DAVANT, Morehead City, N. C.

WILMINGTON, N. C.—Some records from April 1 to June 1, 1949. *Winter residents*: European Widgeon, last date April 10; 2 seen from Jan. 4 to April 10 on Greenfield Lake. Lark Sparrow, Feb. 26 to April 16, by Baker and Appleberry. Junco, last seen April 19. One common Loon and one Gannet, 100 Red-breasted Mergansers, 26 Snowy Egrets, 1 Little Blue Heron, 8 Bonaparte's Gulls, and 20 Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were seen May 11, feeding on fish at the edge of the Sound; the birds seemed to have the fish hemmed in and the birds were packed in as tightly as the fish. Bufflehead, 1, May 14. Horned Grebes, last seen May 2. Baldpate, 1 male on Greenfield Lake, May 14. Knots, 19 on Figure Eight Island, off Middle Sound, May 28, and 3 at Wrightsville Beach, May 30. *Summer arrivals and migrants*: Acadian Flycatcher, April 16; 75 Solitary Sandpipers, 2 Piping Plovers, 50 Wilson's Plovers, Masonboro Sound, May 15, by McAllister and Funderburg; 1 Florida Gallinule, May 14, on Greenfield Lake. *A few nesting records*: May 2, young Grackles able to fly, 2 sets Brown Thrashers with tails, young Pine Warblers and Crested Flycatcher just out of nest; Oyster Catcher, 3 nestlings banded May 14, by McA. and F.; Willet, 3 nests with egg shells and 1 with 4 eggs, Seaside Sparrow nest with 3 eggs, May 15, McA. and F.; Barn Swallows were observed feeding 4 young on telephone wire at Seagate, on May 31—the parent birds did not light on the wire but fed the young birds from the air. There have apparently been more Orchard Orioles in this region than we have ever seen before, and there was also an unusual number of Horned Grebes and Common Loons this year.

EDNA LANIER APPLEBERRY

INJURY FEIGNING BY WILSON'S PLOVER.—On June 6, 1948, while visiting a breeding colony of Least Terns on Masonboro Sound, Claude and Don McAllister and I witnessed a display of injury feigning by two pairs of Wilson's

Plover which were nesting in the tern colony. In visits to other colonies in which Wilson's Plovers were also nesting we saw no injury feigning although the adult birds remained in the near vicinity during the time we were near their nests. One of the plovers at this colony met us before we had reached the colony and raced back and forth ahead of us uttering shrill notes, but did not drag its wings or tail. While we were photographing nests in the colony, however, both pairs of birds displayed a number of times within ten feet of us in an attempt to lure us from the nests. They would run rapidly with the wings and tail dragging and then fall with the head and neck outstretched, tail fanned out, and wings beating feebly, sometimes remaining in this position for nearly half a minute. One bird would lie on its side with one wing outstretched and its head thrown straight back and remain without moving in this position for some moments unless approached. According to E. A. Armstrong in his book "*Bird Display—An Introduction to Bird Psychology*," injury-feigning in a number of species of birds, including the Killdeer, increases in intensity daily as incubation advances, which may account for the difference in reaction in the nesting plovers of these colonies, the eggs in the first colony being freshly laid and those in the second in an advanced state of incubation.

JOHN B. FUNDERBURG, Wilmington, N. C.

PITTSBORO, CHATHAM COUNTY, N. C.: Here are a few records from my daily notes at my home at the "Brier Patch." *Winter residents*, last dates: Mar. 13, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Mar. 16, Song Sparrow; Mar. 19, Fox Sparrow (2), Hermit Thrush (1); Mar. 26, Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Mar. 29, Pine Siskins (flock); Apr. 3, Purple Finches (flock); Apr. 5, Juncos; Apr. 17 (frost this morning), Cedar Waxwings (flock); Apr. 29, Myrtle Warblers; May 8, White-throated Sparrows. *Spring arrivals*: Apr. 7, Yellow Warbler; Apr. 9, White-eyed Vireo (2), Maryland Yellow-throat; Apr. 15, Summer Tanager (1 male); Apr. 20, Red-eyed Vireo, Chimney Swift (6), Catbird (2), Crested Flycatcher; Apr. 23, Black and White Warbler (2), Redstart, Hooded Warbler; Apr. 29, Yellow-breasted Chat; May 1, Indigo Bunting (2), Hummingbird; May 5, Blue Grosbeak; May 13, Wood Pewee, Wood Thrush; May 15, Blackpoll Warbler (2); May 19, Yellow-billed Cuckoo. *Nesting records*: Feb. 11, Brown Thrasher's spring song; Feb. 24, Carolina Wren began nest in bird box; Mar. 21, Phoebe started nest; Mar. 21, Brown-headed Nuthatch began boring hole in dead peach tree, left nest May 13; Apr. 9, Bluebirds nest in syrup bucket (earlier nest destroyed); Apr. 13, Phoebe has 3 eggs; Apr. 24, Catbirds begin their nest, Brown-headed Nuthatches have young; May 8, young Bluebirds left nest; May 15, young Titmice in bird box, Brown Thrashers ready to leave nest in apple tree; May 20, Phoebes left nest; May 27, Titmice left bird box, baby Catbirds left nest; June 5, Phoebe began new nest, 3 eggs on June 10, abandoned nest on June 16, probably because of mites; June 10, 4 young Robins in driveway; June 15, White-eyed Vireo brought two young to the garden, and Crested Flycatchers brought their young; June 18, Crested Flycatchers began nest in stovepipe stuck on the end of a pole in the grape arbor; June 23, Catbirds have young (their second family); June 24, 4 young Bluebirds found in an old shoe that was stuck, toe down, in a hollow post, left nest July 5; July 3, Carolina Wren building in bird house, 3 eggs on July 10, young left nest Aug. 1; July 5, Wood Pewee built nest in Walnut tree, in a few days a Catbird drove them from the nest; July 6, Prairie Warbler brought three young to the garden. Found Brown Thrasher's nest in grape arbor, young thrashers left nest July 30; July 17, found Blue Grosbeak's nest with two young, young left nest next day; July 17, found Bluebirds nesting in the hole where the Brown-headed Nuthatches had raised their family, Bluebird young left this nest Aug. 8; July 18, young Redstarts were in the garden; July 25, Orchard Orioles brought their young to the garden; Aug. 3, found Robins feeding young in nest; Aug. 8, young Summer Tanager came to the grape arbor; Aug. 24, young

Chickadees feeding in the cedars. *Winter arrivals*: Aug. 17, a flock of Pine Siskins; Ruby-crowned Kinglets (2) arrived Oct. 11 and are enjoying the diner and feeding board; White-throats came Oct. 1; haven't seen a Song Sparrow yet (Oct. 29). In addition to those mentioned were four Robin's nests, three Chipping Sparrow nests, two Field Sparrow nests, two Cardinal's nests, and three Catbird's nests. The area covers slightly over 5 acres.

Since I retired I have been tied down at home with loads of work and lots of sickness among family connections. I'm thankful I have been very well. I had hoped to get to Fontana and was so disappointed that I had to change my plans.

CLARA HEARNE, "The Brier Patch," Pittsboro, N. C.

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER SEEN AT EASTOVER, RICHLAND COUNTY, S. C.—Late in the afternoon of Friday, October 14th, I picked up my binoculars and started on my daily walk about this hillside in search of birds. The fresh wind that had been blowing all day was stilled, the sun was shining, and it was delightfully cool. As usual I stopped on the top step at the backdoor and looked about in the trees and shrubbery for some motion that would indicate a feeding bird. Right away, I saw something move in the plum trees by the fence. Turning my binoculars that way I saw in a glance that this was not a bird with which I was familiar!

I hurried to get my Peterson's "Field Guide to the Birds" and the "Audubon Guide—Eastern Land Birds." Back again, I sat down on the bottom step, found the bird still feeding in the plum trees, and again focused my glasses on him. In the sunlight, he was really beautiful! Brilliant yellow underneath, with heavy black streaks along his sides, I thought at first that his back and wings also were black. But as he turned and reached for a worm over his head, I could plainly see that he was a dark gray, with streaks across the upper part of his back. There were narrow bars of white on his wings and he had a white eye ring, which strongly contrasted with his gray and black head.

Checking with the books, it was easy to see that he was a Kirtland's Warbler, for he was exactly like the picture in Peterson's. This was wonderful—two new names for my life list in one week, for on Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Clyde Sisson and I had seen our first Black-throated Green Warbler! What more could any bird student wish for than to have this good luck? I sat there fully fifteen minutes enjoying his beauty, as he twisted and turned from one side of the trees to another, first up and then down, until I had seen him from every angle. Leaving the plums, he flew to a large *Ligustrum*, then disappeared into the dense undergrowth. I followed him down the hill, where my attention was turned by another flash of yellow in a small cherry-laurel. Here again was our Black-throated Green Warbler, an immature.

As I always do when I see a species that is new to me, I immediately got all my bird books to read everything I could find about Kirtland's warbler. The more I read, the more excited I got! The books describe it as the "rarest warbler in America." Quoting from "Birds of America," "This bird is so rare that the report of an observation of it would be apt to be doubted by the ornithologists!" This bird breeds only in three counties in Michigan, and has been seen during migration in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. It winters in the Bahamas.

Early Monday morning, I telephoned E. Milby Burton, Director of the Charleston Museum, and told him I had seen a Kirtland's warbler, and answered his questions concerning the bird. He succeeded in getting this record included in the "Addenda" of the book, "South Carolina Bird Life." As soon as I received my copy, I looked up the Kirtland's Warbler and noted the few times this bird has been seen in our state. It was first put on the South Carolina State List on April 27, 1886, when one was shot at St. Helena Island, Beaufort County, and recorded by Walter J. Hoxie, who also saw three a week later on the same island. A female was secured at Chester, S. C., by L. M. Loomis on October 11, 1888. A male was

taken by Arthur T. Wayne on October 29, 1903, near Mt. Pleasant, Charleston County. Wayne saw another near his home on Oakland Plantation, October 4, 1910. After fifteen years, P. M. Jenness saw one in Gaffney, Cherokee County, S. C., on May 5, 1925. Then after fourteen years and five months, I happened to see this one in our yard. This was in lower Richland County, two miles north of Eastover, and about 27 miles east of Columbia. Recorded in Pearson, Brimley and Brimley, "Birds of North Carolina," (1942) are three North Carolina observations of Kirtland's Warbler, Sept. 2, 1936, Sept. 22, 1938, and Sept. 23, 1941, all at Rocky Mount, Nash County, and all by Rev. F. H. Craighill.

Annie Rivers Faver, Eastover, S. C.

WILDLIFE REFUGES.—Most of us who have visited the National Wildlife Refuges along the coast of the Carolinas have had to do so during the winter months on some of our memorable field trips and so have come to think of them as shelters for hordes of geese and ducks. The Pea Island Refuge, just south of Manteo, N. C., naturally means Snow Geese to us since the colony wintering there is among the largest to be found anywhere. Reports of a good breeding season this year are therefore particularly interesting to us.

An account of the Lake Mattamuskeet, N. C., area is not immediately available but the Pea Island Refuge and the Cape Romain Refuge, near McClellanville, S. C., are covered in reports given the writer by Paul Sturm, Manager at Pea Island, and Henry Rucker, Manager at Romain.

At Pea Island, the breeding colony of Gadwall brought off approximately 325 young this year. This is real noteworthy. Gadwall do not normally breed in the southeast at all. Bent (Bulletin 126, 1923, U. S. Nat. Mus.) gives central Minnesota as the southeastern limit. However, *Birds of North Carolina* records "the surprising discovery of a pair of these birds with ten young at Pea Island Refuge, June 12, 1939. Eight pairs bred on the refuge in 1940 and some bred there in 1941." Today the colony seems to be doing very well. Nests should be looked for in adjacent areas.

Mr. Sturm's estimate of the numbers of other young reared on Pea Island this summer includes: Snowy Egret, 50; Louisiana Heron, 15; Black-crowned Night Heron, 50; Black Duck, 175; Blue-winged Teal, 40; Laughing Gull, 300; Royal Tern, 500.

Immature Black Terns were seen on the refuge but it was thought that they were from a colony to the north of the Island where the following were estimated to be raised: Laughing Gull, 150; Black Skimmer, 100; Common Tern, 50; and Least Tern, 75.

Besides the breeding of Black Ducks at Pea Island, breeding birds were reported again this year on a pond at Pleasant Oaks, in the Wilmington census area.

At the Cape Romain (S. C.) Refuge, some 300 miles down the coast from Pea Island, Royal Terns stole the show. The total estimate is thirty-five thousand Royal Terns! Ten thousand of them were young birds (in three colonies). Other species numbered as follows: Brown Pelican in four colonies, 1500 adults, 500 young; Great Blue Heron, 300 adults, 50 young; American Egret, 1000. There was no breeding colony of American Egrets on the refuge. Snowy Egret, three colonies, 1000 adult, 100 young; Little Blue Heron, 1500, with no breeding colony; Wood Ibis, 2000, no breeding colony; Wood Duck, 60 adults, 20 young; Oyster-catcher, 200 adults, 100 young; Willet, 5 colonies, 800 adults, 350 young; Least Tern, 500 adults, 200 young; Cabot's Tern, 100 adults, 25 young; Black Skimmer, 6 colonies, 700 adults, 300 young; Ground Dove, 30 adults, 10 young. Four Ground Dove nests were found. This little dove does not seem to be holding its own on the South Carolina coast.

Reference to the Carolina Wildlife Refuges would not be complete without mention of the excellent work of the personnel there. We regret to learn of the transfer from Pea Island of Paul Sturm, and also E. O. Mellinger's move from the Romain

area. Both of these men have contributed a great deal to the enjoyment of our field trips from time to time. We wish them the best of success at their new assignments.
(Sept. 3, 1949.) B. R. CHAMBERLAIN

SCARLET TANAGER NESTS AT CHAPEL HILL, ORANGE COUNTY, N. C.: Our home is at the edge of a densely wooded area and thus far this fall we have eagerly noted the arrival of each of our resident winter birds—the Sapsucker, White-Throated Sparrow, Myrtle Warbler, Junco, and Hermit Thrush. Shortly we may expect the Purple Finch, Fox Sparrow, and the Kinglets. Mingled with these have come the transient Warblers, two of whom have lingered, so far for three days—the Black-Throated and the Cape May Warblers. The former seems intensely fond of some syrup-soaked left-over waffles and the latter has a preference for peanut butter paste.

All this, however, is but a prelude to an experience in bird-watching in which my husband, three sons (ages twelve to eighteen), and myself have recently shared. Last April, just as the last of the Myrtle Warblers and Purple Finches were about to leave, I was startled one morning to see on our log the most brilliant bird I had ever beheld. I needed no glasses to identify it. It was the Scarlet Tanager. However, no picture had ever done justice to the flame-red of its body and the jet black of its wings and tail. To see the bird itself was a revelation! The beautiy of the Cardinal and the Summer Tanager faded at once in comparison. My first thought was—will it return so that my family can share my delight? Fortunately, within two days, all of us got brief glimpses. From then on the family was alerted the minute it made its appearance.

A week later the female appeared and all through the breeding season the pair visited the feeders (eating only peanut butter paste which we kept supplied the entire summer) from five to six times a day.

Our Summer Tanagers had arrived a few days earlier and for three weeks chased away our newcomer almost each time it ventured down. However, one day while I was sitting in front of our picture-window, which overlooks the sanctuary, I witnessed a real test for supremacy between these two cousins. Back and forth they flew at each other many times with spread wings from one feeder to the other. It was a sight for Technicolor. Afterwards, the Scarlet Tanager was in complete control and even chased the Summer Tanager later in the season.

Two red-letter days followed close. On the twenty-eighth of June we first saw the mother feeding her two offspring who, like her, were light yellowish-green with faintly-yellow breast and grey-brown wings. Only one thing differed, the babies boasted two light wing bars. On the thirtieth, two days later, we saw *two* males quite near each other on a nearby tree. Up until two weeks before migration these two patronized different feeders. We were able to confirm this observation because of the difference in the stage of molting they had reached. When one had turned completely green, except for the black wings and a bib of red left around its neck, the other was like Joseph's coat of many colors with a mottled head of red and green, black wings, green body except for streaks of red still along the base of its wings and one down the middle of its breast.

The last two weeks proved to be a period of alternate stuffing and hovering on a low limb for as long as ten minutes at a time, instead of flying up in the trees as they always had before. The two males were more often seen together even on the same feeder. Neither seemed afraid any longer, for they were at home. And so, it was with a great deal of reluctance on our part, and apparently on theirs, that they left and we awoke on the morning of October first to find them gone. They had come to us a bright reminder of the tropics; they were returning clothed in the soft green of our summer forests. They had been our constant guests for five months and four days.
(Oct. 21, 1949) SUE ROUGHTON THOMPSON.

# With the Editor

NOTES TO PHOTOGRAPHERS—If you have some good bird pictures, why not contribute a few for a file of photographs to be used in later issues.

THE ATTRACTIVE FONTANA VILLAGE FOLDERS—which C. B. C. members received with their notices for the fall meeting were arranged for by C. B. C. President, B. Rhett Chamberlain, through the courtesy of Lucile K. Boyden of the Government Services Corporation at Fontana Dam.

"WILD GEESE BY THE THOUSANDS," is the title of an article by Hugo H. Schroder, in the October issue of The Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, about the Lockhart Gaddy Wild Goose Refuge, near Ansonville, N. C. Schroder states: "Mr. Gaddy has the most outstanding wild goose sanctuary in North America."

SEND IN YOUR FIELD OBSERVATIONS and records to *The Chat*. Much of such material is suitable for publication as permanent records, and occasional finds are particularly valuable. Be sure to include dates and localities and complete data with each record, and send in your notes promptly. Such material makes your *Chat* much more valuable.

NATURE LECTURES: "Island Bird Life," "Birding About Home," and "From the Ocean to the Appalachians," are titles of W. Bryant Tyrrell's nature lectures, with colored motion pictures, sponsored by the American Nature Association, Washington, D. C. For information write W. Bryant Tyrrell, 246 Park Ave., Takoma Park, Md.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO MATTAMUSKEET—You will doubtless be interested in getting a copy of an attractive bulletin, *Number* 4, *Conservation in Action Series*, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, which maps and describes the Mattamuskeet, Pea Island, and Swanquarter Wildlife Refuges. Drop a card with your request to: Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

B. RHETT CHAMBERLAIN WRITES: "Bound copies of *South Carolina Bird Life*, by Alexander Sprunt, Jr., and E. Burnham Chamberlain, were being prepared for mailing November 15. If you ordered your copy and have not received it, it will be along in a few days. If you put off ordering it, you can get it at your bookstore or from the publisher, The University of South Carolina Press, Columbia 1, S. C. We have not seen it but with the authors and artists and director E. Milby Burton of the Charleston Museum as producers, it has to be good."

E. B. CHAMBERLAIN ELECTED MEMBER OF A. O. U.—At the meeting which was held at Buffalo, N. Y., October 10-14, E. B. Chamberlain, Curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the Charleston Museum, was elected a member of the American Ornithologists' Union. Over twenty Carolina Bird Club members are associates of the American Ornithologists' Union, but according to recent A. O. U. membership lists, only one other Carolinian is a member of the A. O. U., and Charleston, S. C. claims him too, Alexander Sprunt, Jr., and that is really a distinction for Carolina Bird Club. E. B. Chamberlain is the twin brother of Carolina Bird Club's President, B. Rhett Chamberlain.

DAILY CHECK LIST—We have received notice that H. M. Stevenson, 121 N. Copeland St., Tallahassee, Fla., has prepared a daily field trip record sheet of birds of the southeastern United States. The bird list is printed on 2 sheets, 4 pages, 8½ x 11 inches, with ruled columns with spaces for more than thirty field trips, and punched for notebook with each perforation protected by a thin copper ring. If you

are interested, the price is 20c a set, 6 sets for $1.00. These lists are much like the lists prepared several years ago by Dr. Elmer Brown for use of the North Carolina Bird Club.

"BIRD BANDING ON PEA ISLAND" is the title of an interesting article in the September issue of *Wildlife in North Carolina*, official publication of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. The article is by Jack Dermid and includes over two pages of excellent pictures, also by Dermid, showing scenes of a summer bird banding expedition to the refuge by Harry T. Davis, Director of the North Carolina State Museum, Dr. John Grey, until recently pastor of the Charlottesville (Virginia) Presbyterian Church and now at Williamsburg, Virginia, Paul W. Sturm, refuge manager, Dr. J. J. Murray, pastor of the Lexington (Virginia) Presbyterian Church, Sandy McCulloch, N. C. State College wildlife student, J. W. Johnson, N. C. State Museum taxidermist, Bill Joyner, from Rocky Mount, N. C., and Paul Campbell, from Raleigh, N. C.

A MOCKINGBIRD SINGS: Many visitors to the John B. Paine home in Weston, Massachusetts, have been entranced by the remarkable singing of a Mockingbird that has spent his third summer there. During the past summer recordings were made, through the cooperation of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and selections including 10 minutes of imitations by the Mockingbird of more than 30 other species are available on a 12-inch double-faced vinylite record, to be played on regular phonographs. The price is $2.50 prepaid. Write to Audubon House, 155 Newbury St., Boston 16, Mass. And speaking of records of actual recordings of bird songs—the Cornell University recordings of 72 American bird songs, in an album of six ten-inch vinylite records, may be secured from Comstock Publishing Co., Ithaca, N. Y. The price is $8.50, prepaid.

A CARD FROM MRS. O. F. JENSEN, FORMER N. C. B. C. PRESIDENT states: "How I long to see a C. B. C. face! Flew down to Detroit for the annual convention of the National Audubon Society. Think of it—Detroit has 1,800 members. Even have a "Teen-Age" group with its own "camp outs," maintain a scholarship to the Maine Audubon camp, etc. The pictures at the meeting are marvelous. Soon one will be available called "Living Forests," like the one "Making the Soil" put out by Encyclopaedia Britannica Films. It's wonderful. Do rent it. Canada Goose migration started October 1, very early. Counted over 150 pairs the day I left." Mrs. Jensen's address is Maple City, Michigan, though they are getting their home on the lake closed for the winter, and also already starting "Operations New Home" which probably will begin sometime next spring.

AUDUBON TOURS TO BULL'S ISLAND START DEC. 1—Audubon Wildlife Tours by station wagon and boat to Bull's Island near Charleston will start December 1, under the guidance of naturalist Alexander Sprunt, Jr. Sponsored by the National Audubon Society, the two-day wildlife tours will take visitors from all parts of the country into the heart of the 60,000-acre Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge. This is the seventh year they have been offered.

After going by Audubon station wagon to the boat landing 25 miles from Charleston, tour guests transfer to a boat that follows winding channels through mud flats, oyster banks, and vast marshes teeming with birds. Time turns back several centuries as tourists near the primitive forests of live oak, magnolia and holly that clothe Bull's Island. Sprunt's eagle eye spots deer, otter, and a variety of birds from Wild Turkeys, waterfowl and song birds to those fast-moving frequenters of shore lines and mud flats—Knots, Dowitchers and Oystercatchers. Overnight accommodations at Bull's Island are arranged by the National Audubon Society.

Sprunt was formerly curator of ornithology at the Charleston museum and has been on the staff of the national Audubon Society since 1934. He is co-author of the

book, "South Carolina Bird Life," which has just been published.

Two-day tours on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday will be conducted from December 1 to January 24. They leave from the St. John Hotel in Charleston. A folder giving full details about the tours may be obtained by addressing National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N. Y.

A LETTER FROM MISS ESTHER BENNETT—C. B. C. member from Asheville and Greensboro, N. C., who is now busy at the museum at Carbondale, Ill., includes this paragraph: "You can perhaps imagine the thrill I had on the evening of October 22nd, when thousands of geese flew over Carbondale, honking for all they were worth. That was the first time I had been around when and where a fall migration was in full swing. There is a Wildlife Refuge at Crab Orchard Lake about ten miles from here, and approximately 20,000 ducks, 15,000 Canada Geese, and 5,000 Blues and Snows stopped there. I have been out five time since their arrival and have had interesting views of them each time—feeding, on the water, and in flight. Sights to be remembered. By the way, there was a full-page spread in the St. Louis Globe gravure section today (November 13) on the Gaddy Goose Pond at Ansonville, N. C."

"THE CALL"—a poem which is reproduced below, is the title poem of an attractive 45-page booklet which includes a collection of verse written by a Carolina Bird Club member of several years standing, Sarah A. Heinzerling (Mrs. J. A.), of Statesville, N. C. Born in Reidsville September 11, 1862, the same day O. Henry arrived in Greensboro, Mrs. Heinzerling considers it quite an honor to share birthdays with William Sidney Porter. Books previously written by Mrs. Heinzerling are: "The Pines of Rockingham, and Other Poems," and "Songs of Iredell." Many of her poems have been published separately in various North Carolina newspapers and magazines.

### THE CALL

I never saw a nightingale,
I never heard one sing,
And so I cannot write of them
At rest or on the wing.

But I have seen a mockingbird
Perched in a cherry tree
Throw back his head and fill the air
With trills of ecstasy.

And I have heard one in a cage
Send through confining bars
His poignant love calls in the night
Toward the distant stars.

Each feathered songster gave its best,
The prisoner and the free;
Can I do less though small my part
In nature's symphony?

As birds upon a blooming bough
I may not rise and soar,
For I am hedged about with bars,
And life is adding more.

But from its prison place, my soul,
Which nothing can inthrall,
May send in little halting songs,
To kindred souls, a call.

—SARAH A. HEINZERLING.

NEW BOOK ON WARBLERS UNDER WAY. John Henry Dick, South Carolina artist-sportsman, and Stuart Roesler, New York banker, are collaborating on a new and elaborate book, "The Wood Warblers of North America," which will be published in 1951 by The Devin-Adair Company, 23 and 25 East 26th St., New York 10, N. Y. Featured will be 35 color plates by Dick, showing the warblers in their different plumages against typical backgrounds of plants, insects, and trees. The last serious work on warblers was Frank M. Chapman's "Warblers of North America," which was published in 1907 and which has been out of print and unavailable for many years.

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Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. D. L. Wheeler; V-P—Miss Clara Hearne; S-T—Mrs. T. L. O'Briant, 538 Vance St.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—The Rev. Gray Temple; S—Miss Dorothy Craighill; T—Miss Lilly Shearin; Members of Executive Committee—Mrs. Fairy Bandy and Mrs. J. W. E. Joyner.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Robinson; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes, Box 660; T—Miss Norma Shiring; Rec. S—Mrs. Lloyd Prime.

Tarheel Bird Club: P—Rufus Page; S-T—Mrs. Julia W. Maulden, 208 William St., Kannapolis, N. C.; Historian—Mrs. Andrew Smith.

Tryon Bird Club: P—Mrs. Arthur W. Brintnall; S-T—Mrs. Thomas Clark; Publicity Chm.—Mrs. H. Lan Moore.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—John B. Funderburg, 1211 South Fourth St.; V-P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry; T—Charles F.Theobald; S—Mrs. C. D. Maffitt, 219 South Fifth St.; Directors—Mrs. W. C. Mebane, Mrs. W. R. Baker, Mrs. N. E. Everson.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

## Local Clubs and Their Officers—South Carolina

Charleston Natural History Society: P—Malcolm L. McCrae; V-P—Capt. I. S. H. Metcalf; S—E. Burnham Chamberlain, The Charleston Museum, Charleston 16, T—Mrs. Louise Barrington.

Columbia Natural History Society: P—Gilbert J. Bristow; V-P—Harry Hampton; T—Dr. Paul J. Philson; S. Mrs. Clyde Sisson; Ex. Com. Officers and Mrs. G. E. Charles.

Greenville Bird Club: P—Miss May W. Puett; V-P—P. M. Jennes; S-T—Miss Rosa Lee Hart.